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Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland.
Pharmaceutical Chemists' and Apothecarles'
Assistants' Association of Ireland.
South African Pharmaceutical Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Natal.
Pharmaceutical Society of the South African
Republic.
Central Pharmaceutical Association of N.Z.
Otago Pharmaceutical Association, N.Z.
Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.
Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.
Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.
Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.

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OUR DIARY.

ADVERTISERS should secure at once the space they require in The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary for 1898.

We go to press with it thus early because we make a point of delivering it to Colonial and Foreign subscribers before the New Year.

Which means that several thousand copies must be bound as well as printed within the next fortnight.

It also indicates to advertisers how distinctly valuable advertising is in The Chemists' And Druggists' Diary.

Most people know how popular the C. δ D is at home; how every chemist and drug merchant of good position makes a point of reading it every week to see what is new. It is just the same abroad—there are few of our colonial chemists who do not get it.

The DIARY is used every day of the year in thousands of pharmacies all over the world. Advertise in it because it pays to do so, for it appeals to the widest circle of the best drug buyers in the British Empire.



Mr. Andrew Lang appears as an anti-cutter on p. 731. THE NEW Year-book is out, and is commented on on p. 730

MR. JOHN BAIN has been elected President of the Liverpool Chemists' Association (p. 723).

A FACSIMILE of one of Dr. Gregory's prescriptions for his famous powder appears on p. 732.

MR. FRED REYNOLDS describes and illustrates a new plant-press which he has designed (p. 742).

NEW CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATIONS have been organised at Southampton (p. 725) and at Newport, Mon. (p. 726).

THE ORIGIN and brief career of "Our Local Association" are sketched by a not very trustworthy reporter on p. 727

THE MANCHESTER PRICE-LIST COMMITTEE object to the suggestion that they have copied the Liverpool price-list (p. 743).

Dr. SYMES reverses his previous conclusion that wine is not a good vehicle for the administration of pepsine (p. 723).

MR. BLAIR, of Cork, directs attention to an increase of fire-insurance premium charged on all stores where turpentine is kept (p. 742).

THE PROSPERITY OF MESSES. A. & F. PEARS (LIMITED) and of Messrs. Idris & Co. (Limited) may be gathered from reports on p. 734.

THE DRUG AND CHEMICAL MARKETS have been quiet this week, but a few interesting changes are recorded in our trade report (p. 736).

AN EDITORIAL ARTICLE dealing with the present specific lative movement in quinine and the position of cinchonabark will be found on p. 731.

THE PROSECUTION OF AN ITINERANT PILL-VENDOR, who, it is alleged, has been passing off spurious goods as Dr. Williams's Pink Pills, is reported on p. 715.

PROFESSOR DUNSTAN, in a recent lecture, points out that there is yet much to be learned in regard to the nature of some of the simple chemical changes (p. 725).

OUR AMSTERDAM CORRESPONDENT telegraphs that there has been a further advance of 25 per cent, in the price of cinchona-bark at Thursday's public sales (p. 736).

A KEZANLIK FIRM of otto-of-rose merchants call our attention to the fact that a quantity of otto of rose is sold in Europe at lower prices than it is bought in Bulgaria. (p. 743).

THE P.A.T.A. DEBATE continues. Mr. Day replies to Mr. Glyn-Jones, Mr. Glyn-Jones replies to Mr. Beecham, and several other correspondents take part in the discussion (p. 740).

Mr. A. C. Abraham has shown, in a paper read before the Liverpool Chemists' Association, how the change of names of pharmaceutical preparations may nullify the observations of past physicians (p. 723).

THE P.A.T.A. COMMITTEE have decided that private arrangements with cutters are not to be made by their associates unless the cutter agrees to sell all articles on the P.A.T.A. list at protected prices (p. 715).

THE LONDON CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS have discussed leeches (p. 724); those of Edinburgh have considered the relations of the pharmacist to the medical profession (p. 726); and those of Dublin have spent their first sessional evening in congratulating themselves (p. 725).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL, at their last meeting, discussed the indifference of their members as shown by the number of places where no applications for appointments as local secretary have been made, and also considered a proposal by Dr. Symes to extract some trade benefit from the Medicine-stamp Acts (p. 719).



Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Stealing and Receiving Drugs.

At the Liverpool Quarter Sessions on October 28, before Mr. C. H. Hopwood, Q.C., Recorder, Edward Ellison (34), chemist's assistant, was charged with having, on September 24 and on other days, stolen eight bottles of quinine, one bottle of pills, and other drugs, the property of Samuel H. Johnson and another; and James Davidson (43), chemist, was indicted for having feloniously received part of the stolen drugs. The prosecutors are wholesale druggists, carrying on business in Whitechapel, and it appeared from the evidence that Ellison was an assistant in their employ. It was alleged that on several occasions he took drugs belonging to the firm and sold them to the prisoner Davidson, who was described as the managing-director of the Liverpool Drug Company, London Road. Ellison, who pleaded guilty, and gave evidence in the case, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment. Davidson, whose defence was that he did not know the goods were stolen, was found guilty of receiving the property, and was also committed for three months.

Drugs from the Local Druggists.

At the meeting of the Macclesfield Board of Guardians on October 28 Mr. Bradley called attention to an item in the accounts of 15%. for drugs supplied, and asked the Chairman of the House Committee—as a practical chemist—why those drugs could not be obtained in Macclesfield. He added that he had been asked on several occasions why local chemists could never have an opportunity of tendering for the drugs or supplying them. He himself could get anything he wanted in the town, and he did not see why the Board should not be able to get the drugs for the workhouse in the town also. Mr. Carr explained that ever since the tender of the present contractors (Messrs. J. Richardson & Co., of Leicester) was accepted, no advertisement for drugs had been issued. He thought Mr. Bradley was right in making the inquiry. The same idea had occurred to himself. He promised to bring the matter before the committee.

Chemicals in Milk.

Dr. Robinson, medical officer to the Isle of Thanet District, Council, has reported to the Council on the remarkably high mortality amongst infants, the percentage being 20 9 on the number of births. He attributes this high mortality largely to the use of chemicals in milk added for the purpose of preserving it. He complained that when milk is analysed the analyst seemed to be satisfied when he discovered the amount of added water, and urged that due regard should be paid to any foreign substances in milk.

Manufacturing Chemists' Liberality.

Last week, in addressing a meeting at Winnington, Northwich, Sir John Brunner, M.P., intimated that Dr. Mond and he had decided to present a new clubhouse and pavilion to the Winnington Recreation Club. The offer was received with cheers by the members of the organisation, which is the most 'successful in Cheshire. The land for the various athletic courses, cycle-track, bowling-greens, &c., was given by Messra. Brunner, Mond & Co. The plans show that the new pavilion will be a handsome structure.

Assaulting a Chemist's Daughter.

Mr. Justice Grantham and a jury were engaged at the Ruthin Assizes, on Monday, in hearing a charge of highway robbery against Frank Wallace Spriggs, son of Josiah Spriggs, journalist, of 73 Gowen Road, Forest Gate, London,

the prosecutrix being Miss Annie Hughes, the daughter of a Rhuddlan chemist. While cycling to Caerwys, Miss Hughes was stopped by a man, and robbed of a bracelet and a diamond ring, and was seriously assaulted. Many witnesses from Rhyl swore to the prisoner being the man who hired a horse and rode out towards Dysorth, and who came back with the horse foaming and covered with lather. Witnesses for the defence swore positively that the prisoner was at home at Forest Gate at the time. The jury found the accused guilty. It was then shown that he was convicted in July, 1896, at Hereford of robbery, and other indictments against him related to robberies in Warwick, Leamington, Derby, Leicester, Rhyl, Hull, Liverpool, and Hereford. The Judge sentenced Spriggs to penal servitude for five years. The prisoner's family created a scene in court when the sentence was pronounced, crying loudly together, and exclaiming that the prisoner was innocent.

No Fight.

We reported last week that Mr. James Wellesley Douglas, who was the secretary and manager of the Chemists' Cooperative Society, had applied at the Westminster Police Court for a summons against Dr. G. B. Clark, M.P., for an assault, Dr. Clark being referred to as the liquidator of that concern. On Saturday last Dr. Clark applied for a cross-summons against Mr. Douglas, which was granted. On Monday, when the match was to have come off, a very tame ending was in store. Mr. Dutton, who appeared for Mr. Douglas, stated that the friends of both parties had intervened, and it appeared that Dr. Clark had apologised to Mr. Douglas, and it was agreed that this should end the matter. "A very satisfactory ending," said Mr. Marsham, the Magistrate. "Bother the friends who intervened," say we.

Chemists as Sub-postmasters.

An important gathering of sub-postmasters was held last week at the Grand Hotel, Sunderland, and a branch of the National Federation of Sub-postmasters was formed. Mr. Bell, pharmaccutical chemist, was appointed secretary; Mr. Inglis, chemist, Delph, attended as deputation from the parent body.

Assault on a Chemist.

At the Lambeth Police Court, on Monday, a youth named Jones was charged with assaulting Mr. A. J. Fowler. The prosecutor, who said he was a retired chemist, alleged that on the previous Sunday night he was walking across Clapham Common when he was pushed into the road by the defendant and some other lads. There was not the slightest provocation, and when spoken to, the prisoner said it was only done for fun. His Worship said that kind of fun must be put a stop to, and fined the prisoner 40s. and costs, or seven days.

A Chemist and his Rates.

At the Cardiff Police Court, on Tuesday, John Robb, chemist, Broadway, was summoned for non-payment of district rates amounting to 5l. 14s. Mr. C. Davies, collector, said the warrant which had been issued for the amount was returned endorsed "No effects." Defendant was carrying on a good business, in addition to which he received 5s. per week as Chairman and Treasurer of the Roath Working Men's Club. He was proprietor of a specific which was said to be "invaluable for neuralgia and tic-douloureux," and he was also in the receipt of 10 per cent commission on the sale of a patent starch-gloss. Mr. B. Harris, Public Prosecutor: And defendant was nominated as a candidate for the Central Ward at the recent municipal elections? Mr. Davies: I believe so. The Stipendiary: That is not necessarily an indication of means. (Laughter.) Defendant said the whole of his property was sold under an execution some time ago, and his means were very small. The Stipendiary said he would not issue a commitment order now, but if the defendant did not pay within a week he would certainly have to go to prison.

A Medical Officer's Work and Salary.

The Bromsgrove Board of Guardians, on Tuesday, discussed an application by Dr. Cameron Kidd, medical officer at the workhouse, for an increase of salary. In his letter, Dr. Kidd stated that he had made not less than 166 rounds of the infirmary per annum, and allowing 2s. 6d. for each round,

which occupied at least an hour, that demanded 20% out of his salary of 30%, leaving 10% only for medicines, which in ordinary times averaged 1,000 bottles per annum, in addition to which 120 pills were on an average consumed every month. Liniments and ointments were required frequently. The amount paid was about a halfpenny per bottle, and it was quite impossible at that price to provide medicines of a proper quality without pecuniary loss. Looking at it in another way, his salary was at the rate of 4s. per inmate per annum, a sum which would be just sufficient to remunerate a club doctor where it was paid by a picked body of healthy club members, while the inmates of the workhouse were mostly aged or infirm, or otherwise invalids. It was considered that Dr. Kidd had made out a strong case, and an increase of 10% was granted.

The P.A.T.A. and Munyon's Remedies.

At a meeting of the proprietors of articles on the P.A.T.A. Rist, held on Wednesday last at Anderton's Hotel, the recent action of the Munyon's Remedies Company in supplying their articles to firms on the prohibited list of the Association was considered. It appears that certain firms on the P.A.T.A prohibited list had expressed their objection to recognising the Association's agreement, though they did not object to sell P.A.T.A. goods at the prices fixed. The Association decided therefore that such firms should be supplied provided they did not cut any of the P.A.T.A. articles, and were prepared to give the proprietors, whose goods they stocked, an individual agreement to maintain the prices. It was decided that the individual agreements made by the Munyon's Remedies Company and Day's Southern Drug Company, and other cutting firms, did not contain the necessary stipulations. The Secretary was therefore instructed to write asking the Munyon's Remedies Company to discontinue their supplies to these firms until they had ceased cutting P.A.T.A. goods, or in the alternative to withdraw from the Association and work their own anticutting scheme.

Popularity of Pink Pills.

A man named Henry Downs, 5 Maple Street, London, was charged at Louth Police Court on October 27 with obtaining money by false pretences in Louth on September 1 by representing himself to be agent for Dr. Williams's Pink He had been arrested in London the previous day, and the case was conducted by the police-superintendent. A witness named Arthur Thomas Graves said he was in the market-place and saw prisoner with another man against the town-pump offering for sale some pills which he said were Dr. Williams's Pink Pills for Pale People. He said they were agents for that firm, and were paid 4*l*. 10*s*. per week. On the faith of prisoner's representation he bought one box of the pills from prisoner and gave 6d. for it. Samuel Sutton, Newmarket, said he had seen the prisoner before on a Wednesday—market-day but he could not swear what date or in what month. He was in the Louth market-place, and prisoner was standing against the pump. The prisoner had a friend with him. Prisoner was taking the boxes round for sale amongst the people, and his friend stood up speaking. He purchased a box of pills, and after he had had them about a quarter of an hour he said to prisoner, "Whose pills did you say they were?" He replied, "Dr. Williams's Pills, made of the same material, at the same firm, and by the same machinery as Dr. Williams's Pink Pills." He did not hear him say anything about his being an agent. He paid 6d. for the box he bought. He sold a good many boxes whilst witness was there, which would be from a quarter to half an hour.—Prisoner: Do you would be from a quarter to half an hour.—Prisoner: Do you not remember me saying, "Remember, I do not want to sell these under a cloak. These are not Dr. Williams's, but are made by the same sort of machinery?" Do you remember me saying that?—Witness: No, I do not.—Prisoner: Do you say you heard me say I was Dr. Williams's agent?—Witness: No, I did not. Prisoner was remanded. He asserted that he never alleged the pills he sold were Dr. Williams's. Williams's.

The prisoner was brought up again on Tuesday last.

Mr. C. Urquhart Fisher appeared for the prosecution. He stated that many complaints had been received by the company lately that people had been going about saying they were the agents of the company. One case was that of a man and woman in London, the descriptions tallying with

those of the prisoner and the woman with whom he was found when arrested; while in other cases two men were selling pills at 6d. a box as Dr. Williams's, the prisoner being one of the men in question. It seemed this was a case of systematic fraud, and proceedings were taken not only in the interests of the company, but also of the chemists who sold the pills at the price fixed.

Mr. Thomas Russell, manager of the complainant company, said the company spent certainly not less than 50,000% a year in advertising the pills. No agents were authorised to sell their pills, and the pills sold by the prisoner were round instead of oval as the general ones were, as well as being

smaller.

Further evidence was given as to the proceedings in the market. One witness stated that the men said they were agents for Dr. Williams's pills, and if they were not genuine they might be taken to gaol as vagabonds. The same witness stated that his wife took some of the pills purchased from the prisoner and they made her worse. Mr. Fisher: I can quite understand that. Prisoner: Didn't you hear me say when I passed them round, "I don't want you to be under any delusion; these are not Dr. Williams's pills, but are made of similar material and by the same sort of machinery"? Witness: No. In answer to the Mayor witness said he bought the pills on the faith of what the other man said.

Chief Constable Barham deposed that prisoner on being arrested said he had sold pills of his own a good many years,

long before Dr. Williams's rubbish was known.

Prisoner, who denied that he ever sold any pills in Louth market, was committed to the Assizes, to be held at Lincoln on November 24, bail being allowed, himself in 100l. and two sureties of 50l. each.



Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Personal.

Dr. James O'Shaughnessy, J.P., apothecary, Glentworth Street, Limerick, has been appointed Deputy-Lieutenant for the city and county of Limerick by warrant of the Earl of Dunraven.

At the recent examinations of the Royal University of Ireland Miss Helen S. Laird, daughter of John Laird, M.P.S.I., of Limerick, took the degree of B.A., with honours in physics and chemistry and an exhibition. Miss Laird studied at the Alexandra College, Dublin, where she won several scholarships, and at the Royal College of Science for Ireland. She was the only woman candidate who entered in the experimental science course this year. This is considered the most difficult course in the B.A. examinations, on account of the extensive practical knowledge required for it.

The death is announced at Jamaica, from yellow fever, of Lieut. George Allen Duffey, of the 1st Battalion West India Regiment. The deceased, who was only 25 years of age, was the son of Sir George Duffey, M.D., President of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland. He entered the Army in 1892, and was promoted first lieutenant in 1894. In July, 1895, he was appointed Port Adjutant at Port Royal, Jamaica, which post he held at the time of his decease.

At Dublin on Monday last, November 1, the Lord Mayor attended at the City Hall, and, in the presence of a large number of spectators, presented to Mr. Joseph L. Hogan, of Messrs. Graham's State Pharmacy, 30 Westmorland Street, the honorary testimonial of the Royal Humane Society for conspicuous bravery in having, on May 23 last, saved the life of a Mr. Lynch, who was in danger of drowning at Sandycove. His Lordship, in presenting the testimonial,

expressed his sense of Mr. Hogan's gallantry, and hoped he would have the pleasing duty of again decorating him before long. Mr. Hogan suitably replied, and said he had only done his duty.

The Society's School.

The Privy Council have authorised the following schedule setting forth regulations which are to be added at page 134 of the Calendar for 1897 of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland :-

X. That the School Committee arrange the holding of meetings of an educational character at intervals, and, as a stimulus to study and research, may appropriate, with the sanction of the Council, the profits from the school fund for the purpose of prizes or expenses.

XI. Members and registered students shall be admitted free to all such meetings, except lectures, admission to which shall be at the discretion of the committee.

XII. That, for the purposes of these meetings the School Committee may obtain the assistance of a committee of six, to be elected by and from the members attending such meetings, one of whom shall act as honorary secretary, for the purpose of keeping minutes and correspondence.

The Poison in the Cough-mixture.

On Friday last, in the Nisi Prius Court, Dublin, during the hearing of a will case, the plaintiff, a Mrs. Callan, during cross-examination, alleged that the deceased, her mother, had been subjected to undue influence by the defendants. One night her mother produced a bottle labelled "Poison," and said it had been given to her by the defendant; but witness would not let her take the contents. The bottle was produced, and counsel announced, amid laughter, that the "poison" was a cough-mixture called "Kaye's compound essence of linseed." It was marked "Poison" in compliance with the Pharmacy Act. The Judge: The poison is so minute that you would have to drink several gallons of it to be poisoned.

Unofficial Drugs.

In the South Dublin Union, on October 28, Dr. McNamara, resident dispensary officer, reported his inability to procure carbolic soap for certain patients, owing to its not being one of the articles included in the medicine-contract, the soap having been expunged from the tenders by the Local Government Board. Mr. Byrne, a guardian, said the Local Government Board had no right to debar the Guardians from obtaining any article the doctor ordered for the patients. They had threatened to surcharge the Union if they ordered certain drugs and medicines required by the doctors. If the course pointed out by the Local Government Board were followed, a medicine not in the official list of drugs could not be procured until over a week from the date of the requisition, when the patient might meantime be dead and buried. If the Local Government Board surcharged the Union, the Guardians should appeal to the Law Courts. He failed to see why they should have to pay out of the rates for articles which the law declared they should get out of the Treasury. He gave notice of a motion on the subject. In the meantime, the doctor's report was forwarded to the Local Government Board.

Royal Academy of Medicine.

At the annual general meeting of this Academy, held at Dublin on October 29. the following appointments were made:—President, Sir George F. Duffy, Government visitor to the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland; Council of State Medicine, Sir Charles Cameron, chemist; and Drs. Cosgrave and Ninian Falkiner, examiners to the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

The Lowest Tender.

The Mohill Guardians, at their meeting last week, had before them a letter from the Local Government Board who asked them for their observations on a letter which had been sent to the Local Government Board by Messrs. John Clarke & Co. (Limited), of Belfast, who complained that their tender for drugs, being something like 40 per cent. lower than the successful one, was rejected, and that their time had been wasted when the result was a foregone conclusion. There was a warm discussion, but a very sensible one, the majority declaring that they voted for Mr. White (of Sligo) because they had found that his bills had come much under those of their previous contractors, and they did not feel themselves competent to judge of the general effect of the tenders. A motion to rescind the contract and give it to the lowest tenderer was lost by a considerable majority.

The Membership.

As the following extract from a letter to the new President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland probably expresses views held by most licentiates who decline to becomemembers, we print it with the President's reply:-

THE REFUSAL.

Sir,—I am thankful for your suggesting that I become a member of the Pharmaceutical Society. Candidly, I don't believe in the Council, and think I have gone to sufficient expense already in taking the licentiateship without any real benefit. You have, or had, men on your Council—wholesale druggists—who, both openly and secretly, helped men who had no claim whatever to get on the druggists' register; chemists who, combined, monopolise the trade in Dublin, and crush out their poorer brethren; while another publicly advertised the scandalous assertion that the drugs supplied by his fellow chemists in the country were spurious. drugs supplied by his fellow chemists in the country were spurious. If the Council would fight the chemists' real enemies—the bogus companies, the stores, the dispensing-druggist, the grocer, or iron-monger, who sell poisons and drugs without registration or qualification—it would be recognised as a useful and honourable-Board which would truly represent its licentiates' interests. I hope you will pardon me addressing you thus, but being on the subject I could not help airing my opinion, and, I believe, the opinion of a great many chemists who are endeavouring to make a living out of their calling, find it is not enemies they have to fear against, but friends. Yours, &c.,

THE ANSWER.

SIR,—I am much obliged to you for your reply, and also your views as to the constitution and usefulness of the Council; as to views as to the constitution and userulness of the Council; as to the latter, I will ask you to consider are you either just or logical as to the constitution. The Council is not self-elected, and if you and others avoid your responsibilities, and do not take your part in mending it by placing sound men on it, we must remain as we are. No part of the Council can turn round on the other part and say, "You are not fit to be here." The answer would be, "We are elected to represent the members as well as you." I would ask you to come into membership and exercise your influence in our you to come into membership and exercise your influence in our elections.

As to the tolerance of limited companies, can we do anything without going to Parliament? and can we do that without the

hearty support of our licentiates?

We are just as keen as you are as to the illegal compounding of We are just as keen as you are as to the illegal compounding of prescriptions by R.D., but if we can only get general information, and the local men refuse to get us or help us to get sufficient legal evidence to enable us to go into court, who is to blame? We send our inspector to the town; he is not to go near informant lest he should be spotted; he is a stranger, does not know the place or the men, but everyone knows him to be a stranger. He fails; cost to us, sometimes a 10l. note, oftener 3l. to 4l. What more can we do? On the other hand it may be asked, Is it wise to prosecute when the prosecution developes a limited company? Did you see report of my address in C. & D., or Dublin daily papers of the 26th October?

We have got the Inspector-General to stir up the constabulary on the question of illegal sale of poisons, and they are looking

on the question of illegal sale of poisons, and they are looking after the sale by unqualified sellers. We have had the poison list extended, and yet the R.D. are not satisfied, and say we are

not doing anything for them.

If you will reconsider, I think you will admit that the Council are doing their best, and are willing to do better if they are supported and the better way is shown to them, also that those icentiates who stand apart and grumble are not doing theirs.

I hope to hear from you again, and to have the pleasure of pro-osing you for membership. Yours truly, ROBERT J. DOWNES, posing you for membership.

President Ph.S.I.

P.S.—The gentleman you complain of for traducing the fame of country chemists is not on the Council.—R. J. D.

THAT FLORIDA CAMPHOR-SUPPLY. - "The cultivation of the camphor-tree in Florida has passed the experimental stage, and arrangements are to be made by the Agricultural Department for its thorough introduction. It is believed that the U. States will soon be producing a supply of camphor sufficient for its own needs." This is from an American exchange. We have heard the same statements, with more or less detail, for the past five years.



Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trads are always welcomed by the Editor.

Glasgow Parish Medicines.

At the monthly meeting of the Glasgow City Parish Council on November 2, a return was submitted showing that during the month 6,802 prescriptions had been made up in the Parliamentary Road dispensary for poor-house patients, and 401 for out-door poor. The out-door poor had also 160 prescriptions made up in the following private dispensaries: Messrs. the Glasgow Apothecaries' Company's, 15; Messrs. J. & R. Rodman's, 54; and Mr. D. P. Walker's, 91. Four offers for the supply of medicines to the parish dispensary for the ensuing quarter were submitted, and the offer of Mr. James Taylor, amounting to 53l. 5s. 5½d. was accepted. The Medical Committee reported that Mr. J. Anderson Russell, having drawn their attention to some of the charges made by the Glasgow Apothecaries' Company for medicines supplied to the out-door poor on the order of the district surgeons, which he considered too high, the Inspector of Poor was instructed to write the firm that the committee were of copinion that they might in future make their charges a little dower. Mr. Russell is to move at the next meeting of the Medical Committee that in future the contracts for medicines, &c., be for six instead of three months.

The Glasgow Conference.—Dividing the Proceeds.

We understand that the Glasgow local committee who had charge of the social arrangements in connection with the recent meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference held in that city found themselves burdened with a balance to the good of something like 100%. The committee have, in view of this surplus, agreed to return to the subscribers to the Local Conference Fund one-fourth of their contributions, amounting in the aggregate to about 50%; and they are giving to the British Pharmaceutical Conference a denation of 201.; to the Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society 101.; to the Orphan Fund 51; and the balance to the Library Fund of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association. The local committee have also agreed to present an enlarged copy of the Conference photograph taken at Arrochar (which was reproduced in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST at the time) to the Pharmaceutical Society in London, another for the Society's Rooms in Edinburgh, and a third copy is to be presented to the local Association in Glasgow. Mr. Treasurer Walker and his colleagues are to be congratulated upon this successful result of their well-managed undertaking.

French Mews.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

Doctors and Bicycling.—The question of cycling has foen discussed at a meeting of the Medical Society of the Paris Hospitals. The members appear to have come to the conclusion that it is an excellent exercise for healthy persons, but generally to be avoided by those in weak health in view of the danger of over-fatigue. Patients suffering from nervous disorders, they think, will benefit by cycling.

NEW BOOKS.—M. Truchot, ingénieur chimiste, has published a work on ammonia, explaining the new processes of manufacture and their applications. The first part describes the process of extracting ammonia from bones, peat, &c., Monds' process, and the synthetic method. The second part treats of ammoniacal products and waters, also raw materials. A list of the principal French patents taken up in this branch of industry since 1878 and a list of works of reference bearing on the subject close the

volume. Professor Joannis, of the Bordeaux Faculty of Sciences, is publishing an "Elementary Chemistry Course"; the volume on organic chemistry has just appeared.

Pharmacy at the Paris Exhibition of 1900.—The list of members of the committee of admission to the section of "Chemical Arts and Pharmacy" of the coming Paris Exhibition has been issued. It appears to be a representative one, and contains the names of a number of the leading men connected with the chemical-trade and pharmacy in France, including manufacturers, professors, legislators, and pharmacists. There are forty-six in all. Amongst those best known abroad are M. Charles Buchet, Director of the Pharmacie Centrale; MM. Louis Adrian and Eugène Chassaing, manufacturers of pharmaceutical preparations; Professor Jungfleisch, of the Paris School of Pharmacy and member of the Academy of Medicine; M. Alcide Poirrier, Senator and chemical-manufacturer; Professors Riche and Friedel; M. Henry Deutsch, of petroleum fame, &c. There is also one workman, M. Henri Picard, a soap-maker.

THE APPRENTICESHIP QUESTION.—It will be remembered that some time ago the Minister of Public Instruction consulted the schools of pharmacy in France with regard to the question as to whether the apprenticeship or "stage" should come before or after taking the diploma as pharmacien. Four of the schools-viz., Montpellier, Bordeaux, Lyon, and Toulouse—think it should follow the educational course, while at Paris and Lille they are of opinion that it should come before. At Nancy they would like the student to have two years "stage" in a pharmacy before joining a school and one year after. This decision seems in favour of the apprenticeship coming after the school diploma is obtained; but the General Association of Pharmacists, who were also consulted, have voted that the "stage" should remain as an introduction to the profession. Two of the schools consider one year's apprenticeship enough, three are in favour of two years, while three, including the General Association, ask for three years. It seems as though these replies would leave the Minister of Public Instruction a trifle bewildered as to the best course to adopt. The answers concerning the length of the educational course are not so mixed, as five consider only three years necessary, while three think an extra year advisable. With regard to the total duration of the probationer pharmacien, that is the apprenticeship and educational period combined, there is an equal division of opinion as to whether it should be five or six years.

Colonial and Foreign Mews.

MEDICAL MAN'S SUICIDE.—At Vryburg, South Africa, recently, Dr. Paterson, a local practitioner, committed suicide by taking poison. At one time the deceased had a leading practice at Port Elizabeth. He had also lived at Johannesburg and Philip's Town.

PERSIAN OPIUM.—The most important article of expert from Meshed (Persia) to India is opium. It is chiefly intended for the Chinese market, and is one of the most profitable articles of commerce of the country, but the trade is in the hands of a few Persian merchants.

COCA-CULTIVATION IN BRITISH INDIA.—After consideration, the Government of Madras has decided not to engage actively in the manufacture of cocaine, but to do all in its power to foster the cultivation of coca in British India. The Curator of the Government Gardens, Nilgiris, has therefore been requested to obtain a small supply of seeds every year and to offer for sale the plants reared therefrom.

NAPHTHALIN AND FESTIVITIES.—One of the most singular features of the recent festivities at Budapest in connection with the visit to that City of the German Emperor was the overpowering odour of naphthalin which pervaded the localities where the Magyar nobles assembled to honour the Kaiser. It arose from the fact that the brilliant costumes worn on the occasion are very seldom used, and had all lain packed away in naphthalin for months.

CANVASSING FOR THE MEDICAL COUNCIL. — Medical practitioners in Cape Colony are strongly resenting the mode of canvassing for votes for the Mcdical Council, and are freely

ventilating their grievance in the Cape Town press. One writer to the *Times* says that "in such a constituency as that formed by the body of medical electors, no canvassing should be allowed, for it places the man canvassed in a very awkward situation. Should he decline to promise a vote he is likely to get into hot water with the candidate who has asked for his vote, perhaps a personal and professional friend of his, but not the one whom he would vote for as a Medical Councillor."

CAMPHOR-OIL TAX IN FORMOSA.—The Japanese Governor-General of Formosa has issued a notification establishing a tax of 3 yen per 100 catties on all camphor oil produced in the island. No person who does not hold a licence for manufacturing or dealing in camphor is to be allowed to make oil of camphor. No dealer in camphor will be permitted to pursue his occupation in a place other than that specified for the purpose. Persons who hold a licence for making or dealing in camphor need not take out a licence for engaging in the camphor-oil trade. Infringement of the regulations or failure to keep proper account-books and bills of lading, or to provide necessary books, is punishable with a fine of not less than 2, and not more than 20 yen.

The Cape Colony Pharmacy Board Election.—When the last Capetown mail left there was a good deal of excitement amongst chemists in Cape Colony about the prospective Pharmacy Board election, which will be hotly contested. Messrs. Albert Walsh, and Wm. K. Mager, retiring members, offer themselves for re-election. The great question upon which the election turns is the residence of the candidates at, or near, Capetown. It is thought desirable that as many of the members as possible should live within easy reach of the capital. A meeting of metropolitan pharmacists was recently held at which it was decided to support Messrs. J. H. Mathew and C. W. F. Thomas, both of Capetown, and Mr. W. H. Helmore of Kimberley, for seats on the Board.

PEPPER OR OLIVE-KERNELS?—Two druggists of Milan were lately summoned before the Correctional Tribunal of that city, at the instance of the public authorities, charged with having sold to a retail druggist a mixture of ground olive kernels and other foreign matter in lieu of "fine pepper." An expert was called as a witness for the prosecution, and three 12-lb. packages of the material were spread out upon the Judge's table. Small samples of the mixture passed from hand to hand. Then the expert, while engaged demonstrating that the stuff was not pepper at all, was seized with a violent sneezing-fit. The Judge followed suit, counsel, ushers and public chimed in. At last the hearing had to be suspended for an hour, and on the reassembling of the Court the accused were acquitted.

DEATH OF A PHARMACEUTICAL MOUNTAINEER.—Pharmacist Emanuel Albertovitch Stoeber, of Tiflis, Caucasus, met with a distressing death recently. Mr. Stoeber, besides being a clever pharmacist (he graduated at the Military Academy of St. Petersburg), with a business at Tiflis and a branch-shop at Vladikarkaz, was one of the best mountain-climbers in the Caucasus. When, on the occasion of the recent Geological Congress at St. Petersburg, several of the members decided to undertake a mountain-tour in the Erivan section of the Caucasus, Mr. Stoeber offcred himself as a guide and interpreter. Returning from a trip to Mount Ararat, the pharmacist became separated from has companions, and after a search of several days his dead body was found in a crevasse. The deceased, who was only 33, leaves a widow and two children

ESSENTIAL-OIL CULTURE IN GERMANY.—We have on various occasions referred to the attempts that are being made in Germany to cultivate roses for essential oil distilling. Up to the present these attempts do not appear to have been an unqualified success by any means, but the culture is still being continued experimentally in various places, among them on the Prussian Crown domain of Schladebach, near Kötschau. The season has this year been very unfavourable, as owing to the great heat at the end of June the plants flowered too quickly to be properly gathered. Still, a quantity of otto has been distilled and has, we are informed, been principally purchased by French buyers. Experiments are being made on the same estate in the culture of peppermint from English parent plants. It seems a pity that essential-oil plant-culture should not be also undertaken in a scientific manner upon some of our English waste agricultural land.

Movelties.

WINTER STOUT.

MESSRS. BARNETT & FOSTER are offering to aërated-water makers a capital idea to help them keep their works going in the winter. They have prepared a Winter Stout Essence, and they will give the formula for the preparation from it of winter stout, a beverage which we think is likely to be exceedingly popular. It pours out with a perfect head, and the flavour which has a ginger basis and a licorice reminiscence, is in all respects excellent. It is not too piquant, but quite as much so as the best bottled stout. Their customers are also entitled to use their copyright labels, and they will supply also with the customer's name on a well-designed showcard, lithographed in five colours, representing Andrée in his balloon offering a bottle of winter stout to a Laplander.

FROMM'S EXTRACT.

THIS is a patent product of German origin' which deserves attention. It is introduced into this country by the Rec

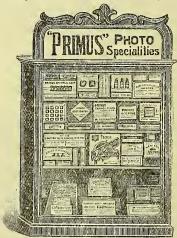
Cross Germicide Company (Limited), of $61\frac{1}{2}$ Fore Street, E.C. It is quite unlike any other food-preparation that we know of on the market. Somewhat similar in appearance to extract of meat, Fromm's Extract differs from it in that it is produced entirely from vegetables. Nuts of various kinds furnish the bulk of it. These are crushed by machinery, the water and a part of the fibrous matter and fat re-



moved, and the nutritive albuminate retained. The preparation is undoubtedly a food of a concentrated character, and it possesses the great advantage of being exceedingly palatable, and an excellent addition to sauces, gravies, soups, and jellies, or it may be spread on bread and butter and taken in the form of sandwiches.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC SHOWCASE.

MESSES. W. BUTCHER & SON, of Blackheath, have designed a counter showcase, which can be had in mahogany, walnut, or



ebony, for the exhibition of their "Primus" photographic and lantern specialities. They are willing to give one of these cases to any chemist who can make good use of it with net order for 5t. worth of Primus specialities.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL MEETING, NOVEMBER 3, 1897.

MR. WALTER HILLS, President, was in the chair, and sixteen other members of the Council were present. Messrs. Grose, Johnston, Park, and Storrar being the missing ones.

THE JUBILEE MEDAL.

Before the regular business was commenced, Mr. BOTTLE, in a few well-chosen sentences, congratulated the President on the honour conferred on him and on the Society generally by the Queen in presenting him with one of the Jubilee medals. The PRESIDENT suitably responded, and added a few words to express the sympathy of the Council with the Duke of Teck and with the Royal Family in reference to the lamented death of the Duchess of Teck. He also referred to the death of

MR. BOWER,

of Tottenham Court Road, who he said had been a member of the Society since 1852, and had twice served as an auditor.

ELECTIONS.

One associate in business and twenty associates of the Society were elected.

THE FINANCE REPORT

recommended the payment of certain accounts. In moving its adoption the PRESIDENT mentioned that during the month a cheque for 100 guineas had been received from Mr. Charles Maw for the Benevolent Fund, making in all 400 guineas which that gentleman had donated to the fund. The Glasgow local committee of the British Pharmaceutical Conference had also forwarded 10l. for the Benevolent Fund and 5l. for the Orphan Fund.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND.

Grants totalling 76*l*. were recommended by the committee. three of the selected applicants being registered chemists and druggists, one the widow of a chemist and druggist, two the widows of members, and one the widow of an associate. These recommendations were adopted. A committee, consisting of the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, Mr. Carteighe, and Mr. E. Butt, was appointed to take all necessary steps to invest Benevolent Fund money in suitable ground-rents when opportunity occurs. The PRESIDENT said they had now about 6,000*l*. on the donation-account invested in Consols, and it was desirable that at least a portion of that should be invested in good ground-rents similar to those already held.

THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.

The most notable items in the report of the Library Museum, School, and House Committee were that Mr. J. Lloyd Williams had resigned the position of demonstrator of botany under Professor Green, and that Mr. E. C. Horrell was appointed in his place. Mr. Thomas Hanbury had written offering to place further copies of "Science Papers" at the disposal of the Society.

The President stated that the total number of students entered this session, according to the books in the office, was sixty-two. This, he thought, was very satisfactory.

THE PROPOSED PHARMACY BILL.

The PRESIDENT, in reply to Mr. Corder, said the Law and Parliamentary Committee had met twice and had considered a draft Bill. He hoped next month they would have something to propose.

THE EXAMINATIONS.

It was resolved that the Boards of Examiners meet to conduct the oral portion of the Major and Minor examinations in January, April, July, and October, 1898, or as near thereto as convenient.

It was also resolved, on the recommendation of the Boards of Examiners, that the matriculation certificate of the University of Wales be added to the list of certificates

which the Boards are empowered to receive in lieu of the Society's First examination.

LOCAL SECRETARIES.

The General Purposes Committee reported that in a number of districts no nominations for local secretaries had been received, and recommended that in those cases the nominations be deferred for a month in order that the secretary might communicate with the present holders of the office with a view to elicit information for the guidance of the Council in dealing with such centres. The districts referred to were:—

Keighley Ashford King's Lynn Brentford Llandudno Burton-on-Trent Llanrwst Chertsey Longton Lowestoft Coventry Dartford Newmarket Pembroke Dock Darwen Devizes Pontefract Ramsey (Hunts) Dolgelly Epping Richmond (Yorks Faversham Romford Flint Ross Hanley Rugby Houghton-le-Spring Runcorn Ilfracombe Shipley

Southend-on-Sea Stalybridge Stownarket Stratford Stroud Sydenham Tamworth Taunton Uxbridge Walsall Wellington (Somt.) West Ham Whitby Wokingham Wycombo

The President said it did not necessarily follow because no nomination had heen received that no interest was taken in the Society, because it was quite possible that the members and associates in the neighbourhood were so satisfied with the conduct of the present holder of the office that they might not think it worth while to vote, whilst the present secretary did not like to vote for himself. Still, it was probable that in many cases it was a sign of apathy, and he thought the committee's recommendation was a wise one.

'Mr. Cross expressed the hope that their country friends would seriously consider this matter, and that they might have a good bit of correspondence for their December meeting. Mr. Young was not prepared to propose any scheme, but he thought that before long it would be necessary to appoint a paid official to do the work which local secretaries were expected to do. Mr. Atkins thought some new plan would have to be adopted soon. Mr. Harrison mentioned one town in Durham known to him where there were eight chemists' shops, of which six belonged to one man. He was not surprised that that gentleman had not been nominated. Possibly it would do to incorporate such a district with the nearest large town. Mr. Hampson was sure the present system would have to be altered. It seemed as if a collapse was imminent. He rather favoured Mr. Young's suggestion. The Vice-President and the President both dissented from Mr. Hampson's gloomy view, and the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

THE MEDICINE-STAMP ACT.

Dr. SYMES then moved, pursuant to notice—

That the Law and Parliamentary Committee be requested to consider the bearing of the Medicine-stamp Act in the sale of mixed or compounded drugs unstamped, by persons other than those exempted by that Act, and to report to this Council thereon.

Remarking that one of the objects of the Society was to protect and further the interests of its memhers, he urged that this was a matter worth looking into, and they were the only body who could do anything in the matter. He felt that the Medicine Duty Act had been rather a hardship to their craft, and he believed that sooner or later it ought to be repealed. He had conversed about this with Dr. Paul, and that gentleman had remarked that the repeal of Act would not be an altogether unmixed blessing. The original Act, passed in 1783, merely taxed quack-medicines, and specially exempted from the operation of the Act surgeons, apothecaries, and chemists. It really taxed the sale of these quack-medicines by others than those who were naturally supposed to sell them. That Act did not bring in the revenue expected, and consequently its powers had been very much enlarged, so that it was difficult always to keep outside it. The law now included all drugs recom-

mended for the cure and relief of disease. There was, however, one notable exemption, as follows:—

And also all mixtures, compositions, or preparations whatsoever mixed or compounded with or prepared from medicinal drugs, medicated or chemical preparations or compositions, or other ingredients bearing different denominations, or having different properties, qualities, virtues, or efficacies which shall be uttered or vended by any such surgeon, apothecary, chemist, or druggist, as aforesaid.

He understood that if ordinary mixtures of drugs, such as compound tincture of rhubarb, were sold by any other persons they should be stamped. If the Act meant that it did a great deal towards bringing the sale of all compound drugs into the hands of qualified persons.

Mr. Bateson, in seconding the resolution, said there had been a doubt on the part of some as to the wisdom of discussing this business in open Council. Some of them had a contempt for the patent-medicine trade, but in many places it formed a very important part of the chemist's business, and he thought Dr. Symes was quite justified in the action he had taken in bringing the matter forward.

Mr. CARTEIGHE suggested that the matter should be referred to the Committee without discussion. He would be only too glad if any useful result were attained. Mr. Bateson, perhaps, did not quite understand the question when he referred to a sort of contempt which some people felt for the business in proprictary articles. There was no sort of contempt in his mind for the patent-medicine trade. The difficulty lay in the fact that this Stamp Act was a Revenue Act, in which the Legislature did not consider any particular class of the community. His conviction was that anomalous as the provisions of the Act were, appeared, on The and vexatious as they sometimes appeared, on the whole they were beneficial to the trade. The difficulty had been increased by the unwise agitation which took place many years ago for the reduction of the medicinelicence. The authorities readily accepted the suggestions of the writers in the Pharmaceutical Journal, and remedied the grievance complained of by reducing the licence to 5s. everywhere, and from that moment the chemist and druggist began to lose the sale of these articles. He did not want to see the same thing repeated, and that was why he did not want any discussion to take place there.

Dr. SYMES accepted the advice, and the resolution was then put and agreed to unanimously.

SALTERS' COMPANY FELLOWSHIP.

The PRESIDENT said a communication had been received from he Clerk to the Salters' Company, saying that the Court of Assistants had approved the appointment of Mr. Thomas Tickle as Salters' Fellow in the research laboratory of the Pharmacoutical Society for the ensuing year.

THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO SHEFFIELD.

The PRESIDENT also mentioned a letter he had received from Mr. Pater, on behalf of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society, thanking him for his visit to Sheffield. He wished to express the great gratification he felt in having had the opportunity of visiting that great town. He found many who, contrary to what he had said that day about other districts, appeared to be thoroughly interested in the advancement of pharmaceutical interests in their widest sense, and was received with great kindness, consideration, and hospitality.

The report of the General Purposes Committee was taken in committee.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

WE have received from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain the following list of candidates who were successful at the first examination held on October 12:—

Ailsby, John William, Louth Ambler, Arthur, Keighley Anderson, Morag, Montrose Atkin, Louis William, Sheffield Bagrie, George, Insch Barker, D. W. E., Cambridge Baxter, Adela M., Cheltenham Beard, F. J., Southampton Black, William J., Tweedmouth Brittain, Richard H., Grantham Brown, Gilbert, Bolton
Butterfield, Walter, Southport
Cardno, John A., Peterhead
Chatburn, Percy, Keighley
Clark, Harry W., Edinburgh
Clarke, Andrew McLean, Leith
Course, Arthur H., Cambridge
Craven, Arthur, Leeds
Crookall, Lawrence, Blackpool
Crosbie, Andrew, Galashiels

Cross, Edith Emily, Redhill Davies, Edward O., Carmarthen Dean, William B., Edinburgh Dean, William B., Edinburg Dunlop, M. K., Glasgow Edmonds, F. C., Penzance Edwards, Herbert, Hastings Etchells, H. H., Chepstow Evans, Walter, St. Helens Fawthrop, W. D., Portslade Garrow, Robert W., Keith Gilsen, Lohn, Ripunden Gibson, John, Ripponden Giles, Edwin Harold, Etwall Gries, Edwin Harold, Edwald Gordon, Allan, Montrose Gordon, Colin, Liverpool Griffiths, Robert L., Anglesea Hannah, John, Glasgow Harkness, George B., Wigton Harriso, William P., Plymouth Harrison, Joseph, Redear Hay, May, Alcodon Hay, Mary, Aberdeen Hendry, Stuart Mill, Aberdeen Henney, Christopher, Maryport Hindle, Fred, Preston Hopkins, Thomas H., Ealing Horton, John J., Birmingham Iredale, Tom, Workington Irving, Isaac N., Appleby Izdebski, S., Ross-on-Wye Jeans, Arthur T. W., Southsea Johnstone, Thomas S., Lerwick Johnstone, Thomas S., Lerwick Jones, Harry W., Liverpool Kelsey, James W., Blackhill Kendrick, John, Birmingham Kennedy, William H., Dumfries Lemmon, George U., Aberdeen Lemnox, Sydney M., Bristol Lomax, Fred Westby, Leyland Loten, Reginald A., Hornsea Lyon, Lames J., Greenock Lyon, James J., Greenock MacGregor, Alexander, Leith McGavin, Frederick, Preston McGregor, James John, Elgin M'Innes, John, Crieff Melville, William L., Glasgow Michie, John Boyd, Alva Morgan, David, Llanelly Mulyenna, John, Broxburn Murray, William H., Kendal Neal, Joseph Lloyd, Liverpool Nelson, Charles Tindall, York Nicholas, George, St. Dogmaels Nimmo, William, Sunderland Parry, John, Ystrad Meurig Payne, G. G. J., Haverfordwest Pickering, William, Royston Poole, Edwin, Sandbach Privett, John Warren, London Punch, Herbert S., Sedbergh Purvis, David H., Barrow-in-

Furness
Rayner, Walter, Lincoln
Rees, H. M., South Norwood
Riddle, William, Bellingham
Rioch, John, Stonehaven
Robertson, A. D., Dalreoch
Rodway, Ernest H., Erdington
Russell, Thomas, East Wemyss
Salari, Charles T., Herne Bay
Senior, William Ernest, Ripon
Sieger, William H., Greenock
Sim, Henry James, Aberdeen
Sinclair, William W., Glasgow
Skelton, George Arthur, Sileby
Slayter, H. G., Northampton
Smithurst, Albert W., Buxton
Sowden, William, Eccleshill
Steel, George Augustus, Alford
Steel, Joseph Andrew, Haswell
Sterling, J. W., Annfield Plain
Stevenson, R. H. S., Tunbridge
Wells

Stockwin, Gideon A. W., York Stubbs, Harry L. P., Carlisle Summerfield, A. W., Middlewich Sutherland, William J. P., Wick Sykes, J. K., Luddendenfoot Talbot, Philip, Bolton Thomas, William J., Loughor Thompson, G. H., Nottingham Thomson, Harry, New Deer Tocher, George A., Peterhead Todd, James W., Sunderland Tolmie, John, Inverness Vaughan, John, Audlem Walker, G. T., Birmingham Walker, John, Stirling Walton, John Borrows, Birtley Walton, L. G., Manchester Walton, Samuel H., Southport Wardrop, Peter, Leith Weatherill, C. H., Manchester Whitham, Harry B., Ulverston Whyte, Alfred A., Friockheim Wicks, Lewin, Bath Wigginton, H. A., Warrington Williams, F. J., Weston-super-Mare

Williams, John H., Cardiff Wilson, Stewart, Glasgow Wood, Andrew, Kildrummy Young, Francis J., Leicester

The Brewers' Ethibition.

O'N Monday last the Brewers', Mineral-water Manufacturers', and allied Trades' Exhibition opened its doors once more in the Agricultural Hall, a dingy barn, which forms the chief ornament of the particularly squalid portion of our "Squalid Village" known as Islington. Outwardly, the show is exactly like its predecessors. About the entrance there are the same tawdry trappings around the doors, the same knot of touts that have offended our senses of sight and smell before. But, this year, the Exhibition may almost be said to have been under distinguished patronage, for in the street facing the Hall stood a barrelorgan whereon was a placard announcing it to be the stock-in-trade of Viscount Hinton, "Eldest Son of Earl Poulett." The Viscount went about in the crowd distributing handbills purporting to contain the story of his life, while the Vicountess ground out a mournful tune. Within, a passage leading to the main hall (ironically called the "Outer Arcade") was garnished with its usual show of chutney, pickles, and printing-machines, while the Hall itself was filled with some five-score of stands, a few of them prettily decorated, but mostly of the familiar type of old exhibition-stagers.

The Brewers' Show has suffered visibly from the boycott pronounced on it by many of the large firms who occupied the most conspicuous positions in former years. Their

places, it is true, have in some instances been taken by newcomers, but the effect of the withdrawals is observable in the widely-spaced gangways in the centre of the hall. The exhibition-managers, however, are confident that their show will not permanently suffer from these abstentions, and it looks as though some of the malcontents (if they were to return) would have to be satisfied with less conspicuous positions than formerly, seeing that their successors have in many cases engaged, for five years ahead, the area formerly occupied by the boycotters. There were few "novelties" at the show (hardly any in those branches which most interest readers of this journal professionally), and the only noteworthy general feature of the Exhibition was the increase in the display of temperance beverages. The whisky-ring still stands its ground, but it does not seem to grow. On the other hand, mineral waters, temperance "ales" and "stouts," and the large variety of nicely-coloured non-alcobolic drinks with fancy names, are bidding increasingly for public favour—not to speak of the various liquid-beef drinks which may be classed as allies of the temperance movement.

THE BERKFELD FILTER COMPANY, as usual, exhibit all varieties of their filters for domestic and manufacturing purposes. Their large supply-filters have a mcchanical cleansing arrangement, which works by depositing a thin coating of the finest-washed kieselguhr over the cylinders. Upon this the impurities from the filtered liquid accumulate, and as soon as the filter begins to run slow, the impurities are thrown off and washed away mechanically.

HASSALL & Co., the original introducers of phosphocitric acid, occupy a cosy compartment, where they ean impress the virtues of their compound upon would-be buyers. The firm have lately been awarded three gold medals.

FLEMINGS' OIL AND CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED) have a "side-show" in the Gallery, containing full lines of their disinfectants and of the other specialities, which we have recently noticed in this journal.

IDRIS & Co. (LIMITED) arc, as always, well represented at the Breweries. A large portion of the bay they occupy is given up to mineral waters and ginger-beer in casks, also English-made syphons and seltzogenes. Our attention was called to their patent glass-tubing (of which some miles' length are now in use) for eonveying syrups, essences, &c., without contact with anything but glass. The company supply this tubing direct to mineral-water manufacturers in large quantities.

MR. T. O'BRIEN, of Liverpool, appears to be the only exhibitor of cheek-tills adapted for chemists' use, though many gorgeous tills of the "publican" variety are on view. Mr. O'Brien's latest is a desk-shaped check-till for those requiring a desk and cash-till combined. This till is made of American oak, and measures 16 by 19 inches. The till is fitted with the patent self-closing-drawer arrangement, which has proved so distinct a success. It can be had for 41. 10s. net.

KOPS ALE, "the policeman's drink" (this pun is intelligible only after industrious search through a slang dictionary), has a large stand, with a battery of beer-barrels in the foreground. The battery is presided over by three young men in bowlers, who are prepared to serve all comers with samples of the drink.

In the entrance-hall the SALLYCO MINERAL-WATER COMPANY have a display of their table-water in splits and bottles. Though only established some twelve months, the company are well satisfied with the headway they have made, chemists and medical men having taken up the water readily. It is especially recommended for kidney-complaints, gout and rheumatism. It also blends well with wines and spirits'

THE INCANDESCENT GASLIGHT COMPANY occupy a prominent triangular stand close to Sallyco, where many examples of the "Welsbach" patents are on view. The "Cosmos" pedestal lamp is one of several recommended specially for chemists' counters. There is no question about the quality of the light given, which is subdued yet brilliant. The company will introduce shortly their Welsbach mantles for petroleum-lamps. That mantle is nominally on the market already, but it is not shown at the exhibition.

In the first row, facing the main entrance—a breezy spot—Mr. J. J. HICKS has an effective display of physical instruments, thermometers, &e., connected with the brewing industry, but little to interest the pharmacist. A novel idea recently introduced is the patent electric-alarm thermometer, intended for use in cold-stores, factories, hospitals, bedrooms, &c.

THE ROSMARINE MANUFACTURING COMPANY draw crowds by their brave show of perfumes, which includes some of the latest novelties from America. Imitation bottles of Bass's ale, Johannis water, stone ginger, &c., containing all the usual varieties of perfumes, are put up for the occasion. "Petal-dust," the "floral air-purifier," is also well to the front.

Mr. E. A. HOLLOWAY, of Torquay, has a neat display of his coca-wine, clixir, lozenges, &c., which articles a good many chemists now stock, as they are supplied on liberal terms.

In place of the two rival saccharin stands of last year the show now boasts but one such palace of sweetness. stand is a pretty one, painted white, and consists chiefly of a reception-room. "Where is the saccharin?" we inquired of the manager. He pointed to two sets of dummy boxes at either end of the room. "These blue-labelled tins are our 1:500," said he, "the cream ones are the 1:300. That is all we show of our products. You see we still stick to our plan of a few years ago, when you criticised our exhibit by saying that it was chiefly remarkable for the length of its cigars and the shortness of its saccharin-supply." Things are still as they were in this respect. THE SACCHARIN CORPORATION (LIMITED) report an increasing sale of their speciality. For the present they have squeezed out the outsiders, and actions are pending. The price of saccharin has not been raised in Britain, but the manager of course admits that it is much higher here than in Germany, where various manufacturers are fighting each other in fine style. But he thinks that before long the German makers will come to terms among themselves and pool their interests. The British Corporation control the trade in this country and the colonies, with the exception of Canada and India.

The London Essence Company are a new firm, but they have plunged boldly into the trade, and, unless all indications are wrong, they have come to stay. Mr. Child, the manager, is a chemist with considerable experience in essence-making and Polar research. He was one of the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition, and has now settled down to business at Camberwell. The company have just brought out a handsome price-list of fruit and soluble essences, colours, and essential oils, and they are showing a selection of these in their neat exhibition-stand. There is an excellent soluble essence of lemon, and among the fruit-essences we specially noticed a strong ess. peach, of which $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per gallon will make a pleasant cordial. It is hoped by this British product to replace the American article which has hitherto been largely used in this country, and which is quoted at a higher price than the home-made essence. There is a "Lo fresco" Burton ginger-ale which has all the characteristics of true Burton—except the alcohol. Outside his stand Mr. Child shows a specimen of the still which was described in this journal some years ago, and which has since been improved upon.

The Manchester Chemical Company (Limited) have re-erected their old stand at which they show their usual specialities in essences, chemicals, &c. Among the latter is their "Liquid Tartaric Acid" for use by mineral-water manufacturers for acidulating aërated waters in place of citric or tartaric acid. A novel drink brought out by this company is the "Aërated Balmoral Stout," guaranteed to contain no alcohol. But for the last-named drawback (or advantage) it must be said that the Balmoral stout would be undistinguishable from the old-fashioned article. Some aërated lemonade bottled eight years ago is shown at the firm's stand. It was made with the M. C. Co.'s preparations, and looks as fresh and clear as if it had been bottled last week.

STEPHEN SMITH & Co. (LIMITED) have one of the handsomest stands in the show. "Here is Hall's wine, our backbone," [said Mr. Smith. "Ah, yes; Hall's coca-wine you mean," our representative rejoined. "Nothing of the kind," was the answer, "it is Hall's Wine pure and simple now—especially pure." And then Mr. Smith explained the inwardness of this contraction. When he offered Hall's coca-wine he was simply making a market for his competitors. People asked for coca-wine, and in many cases another wine, recommended as "equally good," was substituted for the article required. Competitors sprang up on all sides who allowed Mr. Smith to do the bulk of the "coca-wine" advertising but who took away part of the profits arising from the popularisation of the article. "What does Mariani advertise?" asked Mr. Smith. "Is it 'Mariani's coca-wine,' or simply 'Mariani's wine'? Answer me that. No, Mariani knows better than give competitors the benefit of the word 'coca.' And so do we nowadays. When the public are taught to ask for 'Hall's wine' substitution becomes impossible. It is the same with Pears' soap. Some years ago, when they called it 'Pears' transparent soap,' transparentsoap makers sprang up right and left, and flourished on the repute of 'transparent' soap created by Pears. Then Pears dropped the word 'transparent,' and how many makers of 'transparent' soap are left in the market now? Not half a dozen. So it is with everything. Do you know, by the way, that I am about to issue the most expensive newspaper advertisement ever published? No! Well, you'll see it in the December Strand. I have taken a square inch of space there on the outside cover, just where the picture of the 'Strand' appears. I only insert there the words 'Hall's wine, and for that I pay for twelve months 1,000l. net. That comes to 831. 6s. 8d. per insertion for a square inch, a figure never approached in the history of advertising. I understand that Pears, Bovril, and others were offered the space, and refused

The mention of the name of Bovril reminded us of the stand of that firm hard by, and we said good-bye to Mr. Smith. Of the Bovril stand itself it is hardly necessary to say much. The structure is one of the richest, the gentleman in charge thereof wears the blackest frock-coat and the glossiest top hat, and the ladies serving thereat are of the handsomest in the whole show. And the Bovril literature is of the most up-to-date character. It includes a leaflet called the "World's Clock," showing the relative time all over the world, a picture of a "good judge" (not intended for Mr. Justice Darling) drinking bovril, and pathetic cardboard groups of conventional nurses regaling starved children therewith. The company also have a novelty in the shape of "stamnoids"—compressed tablets of bovril, which should be sucked like the lozenges to ward off fatigue. The "stamnoids" are handier than the lozenges, and are gradually taking the place of the latter.

The FORMALIN HYGIENIC COMPANY (LIMITED) have a stand somewhat away from the beaten track, where they show formalin in tablets and solution, the "Alformant" lamp for disinfecting by means of dry formalin gas, and Schering's salicylic acid. Particulars are given of the uses of formalin in brewing, and there is a supply of pamphlets by "a medical expert" on "Nature's Own Hygiene." The stand is an interesting one enough, but there appears to be no one in attendance at it, and the exhibits are of such a technical nature that it is a great pity that no expert (medical or otherwise) is there to explain them. Moreover, it can hardly be said that the contents of "Nature's Own Hygiene" are of that "popular" character desirable for the enlightenment of the ordinary publican. When Boniface takes up one of the booklets and reads that "cover-slips containing an oven layer of micro-organism are exposed to the atmosphere of a stream of air drawn through formalinated cotton into a bell-jar by means of a vacuum-apparatus," he is apt to look a bit puzzled; but when further confronted with the assurance that "formalin in the proportion of 1: 5,000 prohibits the growth of Staphylocoecus pyogenes aureus," may be pretty sure that he will quickly go to recuperate at a stand where there is less learning and more whisky. We are bound to say that we saw no instance of this kind. But we did observe a lady (whom we had noticed elsewhere in the exhibition tasting alternately various brands of whisky, temperance-drinks, curry-powder, beef-juice, pickles, cocoa, and mustard) give forcible expression to her resentment

when she discovered that formalin-tablets were not palatable when masticated.

One of the most interesting exhibits is the joint one of Johnson & Hooper and Edme (Limited). Nothing is shown outside—in the first place, because the two firms do not wish to appeal to the public direct with their malt-extract; secondly, because the first-named house show specimens of chemicals which might create a wrong impression among laymen as to the purposes for which they are used in brewing. The stand consists of a richly-appointed reception-room and an inner apartment, chiefly occupied by a stack of barrels of beer from various parts of the country which have been prepared with water hardened artificially by means of Johnson & Hooper's chemicals, and in which the "Edme" malt-extract, a natural yeast-food, has been employed. Fine specimens of bisulphite of lime for cleaning casks, and a beautiful crystal of sulphur, are also shown. The "Edme" exhibit comprises, in addition to pure diastasic malt, samples of "Edme" condensed wort and of barley.

THE ST. RONAN'S WELLS AND MINERAL-WATER COMPANY (LIMITED) have a small stand effectively draped in what we understand to be the Stewart tartan, and decorated with the Scotch national emblem, where they show the natural mineral table-water from the famous well of St. Ronan. The bottles are neatly decked with sprigs of staghorn-moss, brought on purpose from Sir Chas. Tennant's estate.

Carbonic-acid gas for beer-carbonation and mineral-water manufacture has always been looked upon as a product exclusively manufactured, if not in, at least underneath, Germany in Nature's own volcanic laboratory. Judging from the exhibit of the British CO₂ Company (Limited), however, that seems to be the case no longer. At their stand about eighteen cylinders of compressed gas are shown, and it is claimed that this is made by a new process which yields an absolutely pure, dry gas, which does not deteriorate by storage.

Such are the pharmaceutical exhibits at the Brewers' Show. The galleries, with the exception of the few chemists' exhibits which we have noticed, and a dozen or so which have no special interest for readers of this paper, is more of a "fair" than ever. It is chiefly tenanted by German gentlemen, who contrive to attract little knots of loungers by voluble, if not intelligible, expositions of the virtues of cheap spectacles, patent pens, and so forth. They seem to do a good business; we should say they sell on an average at least a gross of green spectacles a day each. The patent-pen gentleman gives a really clever exhibition of penmanship. He first covers the upper part of a sheet of paper with florid writing, then he uses his pen as an assegai on his desk, violently bends the point forwards and backwards, and subjects the instrument to other ill-usage, from which it emerges triumphantly. Finally he covers the bottom part of the sheet with writing, and smilingly offers the pen to his audience: "Laties and shendlemen, de pen he is as goot as before, and only one sheeling each!" He does a roaring trade.

Messrs. Barnett & Foster are not exhibiting at the Brewers' Exhibition, but they have invited visitors to an exhibition of their own in their showrooms adjoining their office in Eagle Wharf Road. Prominent among their exhibits is a fine specimen of their new pattern double Niagara machines, which has been built to order for the Indian market. The despatch of it has been delayed to allow of its exhibition during the present week. A number of their single Niagara machines were shown in five different sizes. These have an output capacity ranging from 100 dozen to 1,200 dozen per day of ten hours. The firm, in addition to their London works, have a manufactory at Bolton, and are thus able to turn out machines of either Lancashire or London type. The exhibits comprised also machines for aerating and bottling beer, together with all sorts of sundries pertaining to the trade, bottles, syphons, boxes, essences, and indeed everything makers can require. A large number of visitors were in the showrooms when our representative called, so that it would seem that the policy of the firm has been successful.

The Winter Session.

THE LIVERPOOL CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

AT the meeting of this Association held on October 28, Mr. A. C. Abraham, F I.C., in the chair, the first communication revealed some of the

ATTRACTIONS OF THE WHOLESALE TRADE.

The Secretary (Mr. T. H. Wardleworth) caused some amusement by exhibiting a large stone, weighing about 20 lbs., found in a bale of quillaia, and a bullet taken from a pat of opium a day or two ago. While not of very frequent occurrence, he said such things when they happened were a serious tax on the wholesale-trade.

Mr. P. H. Marsden said he had recently found in one pat a stone and a bullet—together about $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in weight.

Mr. Hornblower said he had come across a most ingenious weighting of Cabardine musk-pods—the outer skins being threaded with lead strips, adding considerably to the weight.

Dr. SYMES said on one occasion he bought a caddy of musk which consisted principally of pods padded with bits of leather and earthy matter, which had been adroitly concealed and covered with genuine musk; and when the matter was tried at law the Judge insisted that, if adulteration was to be stopped, it was necessary that the sophisticated goods should be thrown back on the original defaulter.

NIGHT AND DAY PHARMACY.

Mr. T. F. ABRAHAM said it might interest those who hoped for an eight-hours day to know that a prescription-envelope which had come into his possession from the North was marked, "On duty all the day and night."

NEW PRESIDENT.

Mr. John Bain was unanimously elected President for the ensuing session.

THE DIGESTIVE POWER OF PEPSIN IN THE PRESENCE OF ALCOHOL.

This was the title of a note read by Dr. SYMES. Some years ago, he said, he conducted a series of experiments with a view to determining the relative digestive values of the various pepsins then on the market. The result of the inquiry was published. Subsequently the investigation was extended for publication in a medical journal. His experiments were afterwards repeated by a French investigator, who confirmed his results. Time, "which tries all things," had also testified to their correctness, for the pepsin which was then mostly prescribed and relied on has since practically disappeared from the market.

Besides testing the relative values of various pepsins, the experiments dealt with the digestive power of pepsin in the presence of alcohol, which it was found reduced its activity in the ratio of the quantity of the latter present. He therefore condemned wine as a vehicle for the administration of pepsin, and recommended in the place thereof a solution of fresh pepsin in raspberry-vinegar. This constitutes an excellent preparation, and Dr. Symes still knows of none better. But the public never took very well to this "pepsin elixir," as many persons have a decided objection to acids. It has, however, been prescribed with satisfactory results. The experiments referred to were conducted in glass bottles placed in a water-bath kept at an uniform temperature of 100° Fahr. by means of a Reichart's thermo-regulator. If, however, the bottles were replaced by wetted animal membrane, the condition of things was materially altered. It was found that the alcohol present in the liquid, through which the coagulated albumen was distributed, soon began to diffuse through the wetted membrane, and that the pepsin commenced to act with the same energy as in those containers where no alcohol had been present, so that at the end of two hours there was no considerable difference between the weight of undissolved albumen in each case.

The interest which this experiment has for pharmacists is to show that an alcoholic liquid, such as wine, may be used for preparing a solution of pepsin for medicinal use, and that if properly prepared it soon becomes active when taken into the stomach in the presence of suitable food.

Rectified spirit may also be used as a preservative in preparing essence of rennet, because its excessive dilution and ready evaporation when mixed with the proper quantity of milk and warmed overcomes any prejudicial effect it may have on the peptic bodies present.

Glycerine is an excellent solvent of pepsin, as is well known, but unless it is used in sufficiently large quantity to render the solution distasteful to the patient it is not a good preservative. A solution of freshly-prepared undricd pepsin in dilute glycerine, to which 10 per cent. of rectified spirit is added, forms, when filtered, an excellent medicinal prepara-

tion, which may be flavoured to taste.

In response to the President Dr. SYMES explained that in his first series of experiments no alcohol was used, but in the second series sherry wine, containing 14 per cent. of absolute alcohol, was employed. The fact was that he had primarily made a raid against pepsin wine, but afterwards he found his first conclusions were not correct. Mr. A. C. ABRAHAM said the result showed that test-tubes are not the same as the human stomach. Mr. T. F. ABRAHAM remarked that the action of alcohol on pepsin was a stock argument with teetotallers, but now it seemed to be a fallacious one. Mr. COWLEY, in proposing a vote of thanks, said a "note" of this description gave no indication of the amount of labour involved in bringing the experiments to a satisfactory conclusion. Mr. HORNBLOWER seconded, and mentioned that he had often had occasion to test pepsin wine made from sherry, testing 17 per cent. alcohol = 35 per cent. of proof spirit, and it had invariably come up to his expectation, and was fully active.

The PRESIDENT (Mr. A. C. Abraham) then read a note on

ACCURACY IN PHARMACEUTICAL EXPRESSION.

He pointed out that a distinguishing mark of civilisation was the record of discoveries so that they may be useful to others, especially to those who come after the first discoverer. In this way alone can civilisation advance, as it is impossible for any one generation to obscrve all the facts which are of value. It is specially true in science that one generation must depend on its predecessors, but he questioned whether, as far as medicine and pharmacy are concerned, the experience of one generation is not largely lost to the next owing to the changes of names by which medicinal substances are known, and, perhaps, more still owing to the same name being applied to medicaments of a more or less different composition. Many preparations now sold under well-known names are quite different to the preparations formerly known under the same names, and thus the recommendations of a physician of the past may be discredited. As an instance, the author cited the tinct. ferri muriatis or tinct, ferri sesquichloridi, which was made by dissolving the old-fashioned carbonate or sesquioxide of iron in hydrochloric acid with the addition of spirit. The tinctures under these names were essentially the same as in the old London, Edinburgh, or Dublin pharmacopæias. In 1864 a new process was adopted which was devised to make a similar preparation, but in such a way that it might be more uniform than formerly. In 1885, however, a very serious alteration was made, so that it is extremely doubtful whether the preparation can now be said to represent the older one. By substituting water for a large portion of the spirit, the ethers formed in the older preparation are either not formed at all or are formed in much smaller proportion. There were many uses to which this preparation was put, both by medical men and also popularly, to which it would appear the new preparation does not adapt itself. Perhaps the best proof of this is that its use has diminished, he would say, to one-third or one-quarter, and also that a demand has arisen, certainly not a large one, for the preparations of the London and Edinburgh Pharmacopæias. This comes, of course, entirely from medical men, who evidently find that whereas they formerly got certain effects from the old preparation, they do not get them now from the new. Among other official preparations which were so altered in the last Pharmacopæia as not fairly to represent the recognised articles hitherto in use were also syrup ferri phosphatis, which was considerably increased in acid-strength, for no reason that the author knew of; and tinct. cinchonæ co. in which red bark was substituted for a pale bark, thus depriving it of any right to be

called "Huxham's Tincture of Bark," and making it, he believed, much more nauseous and probably in no way better. Among sins of nomenclature adopted by the Pharmacopæia, he quoted the employment of the term "absolute alcohol" for an article which is not absolute; "æther. purus" for an ether which is only pure in the sense of being absolute; and "lini farini, or linseed flour," for a crushed seed which is quite different from that previously known under the name. He also took exception to several of the synonyms introduced. Amongst these he particularly mentioned Blaud's pill, which he hopes some day to be able to show is a wretched substitute for the genuine article, and in no way deserves the name. The trade, too, is responsible for some inaccuracies. As specimens of these were mentioned the concentrated decoction of aloes which will be found in wholesale druggists' lists, and is supposed to be a preparation four times the strength of the official one-which is impossible, as the tincture of cardamoms alone represents more than one-quarter the bulk of the unconcentrated preparation. Another want of accuracy is constantly committed in respect to cinchona bark. If you ask for a sample of B.P. cinchona bark, you will probably be offered a sample of scrapings or chips of red cinchona bark, containing the correct proportions of alkaloids demanded by the Pharmacopeia, but entirely different from the quills so described. Of course there is no guarantee that such samples contain the same proportion of the other ingredients which render the alkaloids in the quills soluble in the various menstrua employed by the Pharmacopæia; indeed, we have every reason to expect that they will not be there. He also referred to another expression which he thought occurs in the Pharmacopæia, but which certainly appears in the B.P.C. unofficial formulary. In the directions under the head of liquor picis carbonis, e.g., the purified coal-tar is ordered to be digested in the tincture at 120° for two days. He is himself a member of the Formulary Committee, but he cannot say whether that means that the temperature is to be maintained day and night. In this particular instance it probably does not much matter which way the directions are interpreted, but he urged that instructions should always be specific, and that the Pharmacopæia should be in all cases explicit. He had no wish to hamper improvement, but asked that new preparations should have new names.

Mr. WYATT sympathised with the writer of the note in some of his remarks. He believed that tr. rhei was not used so much now as when it contained licorice or the extract. Spirits of nitre also, he thought, had fallen off since the form had been altered. As to tr. ferri mur. his experience coincided with that of the President. As to the employment of chips and scrapings of cinchona, the question of the cost was often the determining cause. Generally he thought there ought to be more elasticity in B.P. directions, and instanced pil. rhei co., which, if made strictly B.P., would not stand. Mr. MARSDEN said he had made dec. aloes double strength to answer well, but not beyond that. As an instance of the want of explicitness he cited the B.P. directions for ext. belæ liquidum. He also alluded to the difficulty of getting some of the drugs prescribed by the B.P. Recently he had difficulty in getting English aconite-root, although that only was allowed by the B.P. Mr. Wokes understood that some were in favour of introducing concentrated infusions into the B.P. Such a step should only be taken after very mature consideration. Mr. T. F. ABRAHAM said that tr. ferri muriatis made by the old form contained various so-called impurities which were avoided by the new form. It was possible that much of its medicinal value might depend on these alleged impurities. Mr. J. SMITH remarked that the extended use of patent medicines might have something to do with the fallingoff in the use of certain old-fashioned household remedies.

CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

The evening of October 28 was set aside for "Short Papers" by members, but as no contributions were forthcoming, the President (Mr. T. Morley Taylor) gave an interesting account of the medicinal leech.

LEECHES,

he said, were in use before the Christian era, and their name in most languages had reference to their blood-sucking pro-

pensities. The Greeks called them bdellai, the Romans hirudines (from haurire, to drain), whilst the English word leech is the Anglo-Saxon lace, a physician. Of the official varieties, Sanguisuga medicinalis is the most common. They are imported chiefly from Hungary, where they are cultivated in fresh-water lakes with clay bottoms and peat sides, being fed about every six months.

Belonging to the class Vermes, they exhibit metameric segmentation, or repetition of parts. Generally, ninety to a hundred rings can be counted, five rings forming a segment. The mouth-sucker is oval, and the basal sucker round. After explaining some splendidly-executed diagrams—showing transverse section of leech; isolated jaw, with its adherent muscle and serrate cutting-edge; the alimentary canal, showing its pouches and stomach; the central nervous system, the star-shaped ganglia repeated in each segment; and a representation of the ventral organ—Mr. Taylor chloroformed a specimen and then dissected it, showing the male and female organs of generation, which exhibit the phenomenon of hermaphroditism; the pouches of the alimentary canal, showing, by introducing a probe, their extensibility and the means provided for storing large quantities of blood; the stomach and intestines with the anal orifice. Taylor remarked that the colour of the blood resides in the blood-plasma, not in the corpuscles, which are white. A fluid is secreted in the salivary glands which prevents the coagulation of ingested blood. There is apparently no heart, but the whole circulatory system dilates and contracts. A fresh jaw was dissected out, and inspected under the microscope. Mr. Taylor's experience in keeping leeches suggests that they be kept out of sunlight but not in the dark, in a bell-jar aquarium, the bottom being covered with white sand and then filled to two-thirds with rain-water. Some pebbles should be placed on the sand, and a piece of coral reared in the stones so as to project above the surface. water should not be changed, but a pint of fresh water added occasionally to make up for loss by evaporation, the water being dashed to procure efficient aëration. In applying leeches he recommended that the part should be thoroughly cleansed; a little milk applied to the part is sometimes useful in making them bite. Simple pressure is generally sufficient to stop the bleeding, but occasionally styptics are necessary.

BRADFORD AND DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING was held on November 2, at the Great Northern Hotel, at which a paper, entitled "Shop-talk," by Messrs. F. A. Wilcock and J. A. Mitchell, was read. The paper proved to be a very interesting one.

BRIGHTON JUNIOR ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACY.

A SOCIAL and musical evening was held on October 27, with Mr. W. H. Gibson in the chair.

There was, as usual, a large gathering of members and friends, who passed a very pleasant evening. The arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. W. J. Davies and W. H. Andrews.

LEEDS CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The twenty-ninth annual meeting was held in the Church Institute on October 29, Mr. E. Yewdall (Vice-President) in the chair. There was only a small attendance. Mr. Pollit, Honorary Secretary, read the report, in which the Council regretted it was not able to record greater activity and more substantial progress. During the year a circular was issued to the trade, setting forth the advantages to be gained by being connected with the Association, the facilities for consulting an up-to-date library and materia medica cabinet. This was followed by a personal canvass by some members of the Council, which resulted in a small numerical increase of members and associates. The Council hopes that the new by-laws passed by the Pharmaceutical Society will exercise a favourable influence on the future of the trade, and that the alterations in the examinations will induce many of the associates to avail themselves more freely of the advantages offered by a comfortable room in which to study, having the latest and most suitable books at hand, and

materia medica specimens always accessible. The financial statement showed a balance of 6s. 10d. in hand. Mr. F. W. Branson, F.I.C., moved the adoption of the report, and suggested that there should be a meeting of members once if not more, during the year. Mr. Hobbs seconded the motion which was carried. The following were elected officers fo the ensuing year:—President, Mr. E. Yewdall; Vice-President, Mr. Geo. Ward, F.I.C.; Treasurer, Mr. P. Jefferson Hon. Sec., Mr. W. D. Pollitt; Committee, Mcssrs. J. J. Anning, F. W. Branson, F.I.C., J. H. Hardman, R. Reynolds, F.I.C., S. Taylor, and G. W. Worfolk; Auditor, Mr. Edward Brown.

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.

LONDON SECTION.

The opening meeting of the session of the London Section of this Society was held on Monday evening, in the Chemical Society's Rooms, Burlington House, Dr. E. Messel being in the chair. Two papers were down on the agenda, but the reading and discussion of the first, on "The Adulteration of Portland Cement," by Messrs. Stanger and Blount, occupied the whole evening.

LIVERPOOL SECTION.

At the first meeting of this Section, held on October 27, in the University College Chemical Laboratories, the CHAIRMAN (Dr. Kohn) gave an address on "The Manufacture and Properties of Carborundum," Carborundum, he said, was discovered at Monongahela, Pa., in 1891, during an attempt to obtain diamonds by heating a mixture of carbon and clay in the electric furnace. The resulting product was found to be extremely hard, sufficiently so even to polish diamonds, and subsequent investigation proved it to be a definite chemical compound, carbide of silicon. The name carborundum was derived from the idea that the carbon and alumina (corundum) were the essential constituents. It was made in an improved form of electric furnace, in which a mixture of coke and sand, with a little sawdust and salt added, was heated to a temperature about that of the electric are—3,500° C. The industry had grown rapidly since 1892, and in 1895 the works were removed to Niagara Falls in order to take advantage of the electric supply furnished from the falls by the Niagara Power Company.

THE SOUTHAMPTON CHEMISTS COMBINING.

On Tuesday evening, November 2, a meeting of Southampton chemists (convened by Mr. G. H. Bishop) was held at Messrs. Randall & Son's, 146 High Street, to discuss the advisability of forming a chemists' association. Mr. Hughes was voted to the cbair. All the Southampton chemists except four were present or sent apologies. After a general discussion it was unanimously agreed to form such an association for Southampton and district. Mr. G. H. Bishop was elected Hon. Secretary, and a sub-committee formed to draft rules, &c., to be brought forward at the next meeting.

THE WESTERN CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION (OF LONDON).

AT a committee meeting held on October 27 the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. J. H. Mathews; Vice-President, Mr. A. J. Phillips; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. H. Mathews; Hon. Secretaries, Mr. Herbert Cracknell, 17 Craven Road, W.; Mr. J. P. Harrington, 45 High Street, Kensington, W.

IRISH PHARMACISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE first meeting for the session was held at the Pbarma-ceutical Society's house, Dublin, on October 29, Mr. W. J. Hardy, L.P.S.I., President, in the chair. It was stated that Mr. Howie had consented to deliver his lecture on "The Scottish Alps" on November 9, and that Mr. Downes, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, had kindly promised to preside on the occasion. Arrangements were made to secure the examination-hall for the entertainment, and a sub-committee was appointed to see after the limelight, &c., arrangements. The announcement that the

evening meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society would be open to members of the Association was well received.

Mr. J. Gordon, proprietor of the Ranelagh Medical Hall, was elected an honorary Vice-President of the Association. Amongst a number of newly-elected members was Miss Ada Wyatt, L.P.S.I., the first Irish lady-pharmacist, wbose accession to the ranks of the Association was the occasion for

prolonged cheers.

The President, in the course of his opening address, discussed the objects of the Association and the way in which they bad been carried out during the two years of its-He thanked the retiring officers for the good work they had performed and the excellent results of their labours. By their unceasing efforts and untiring zeal they had succeeded in stamping out any unfriendly or biassed feelings which might have remained in the minds of some of the principals, and in raising the status of the Association to such a standard that it was now one of the most flourishing of its kind in the United Kingdom. His retrospect, he claimed, showed that the infant organisation. known by the name of the "Pharmaccutical Chemists" and Apothecaries' Assistants' Association of Ireland" hadnow grown to full manhood, and as such demanded adult baptism, which had duly taken place, and the new name, "The Irish Pharmacists' Assistants' Association," chosen by the great majority of the members, was a password to the notice and approval of their professional friends and the general public without confining it arranged to the professional friends and the general public without confining it arranged the professional social S fusing it even remotely with the Pharmaceutical Society or other organisation. The position of the pharmaceutical assistant in Ireland, especially in Dublin, had undergone a tremendous change of late years. With few exceptions they had to make their living out of their calling with little hope of obtaining the higher diplomas of medicine and surgery towhich many of their predecessors in pharmacy aspired. This was because the facilities were taken from them by the closing of the night schools of medicine and the greater attention to business required of them by their employers. Under these circumstances the necessity for binding themselves together was obvious in order to improve themselves in every branch connected with their calling. Apart from an educational standpoint the Association merited the support of assistants from a business point of view. The element of personality was the strongest help the pharmacist had in competing with the present-day system of monster combinations which threatened to crush him. They all understood the importance of this personal element behind the counter. The personal element was strengthened by the public reading in the newspapers reports of lectures delivered or papers read at meetings of the Association presided over by Mr. A., chemist, and discussed by Mr. B., assistant to the lecturer or essayist. Such publicity was of immense service to the chemist from a business point of view, and was one of the means by which the public could be brought to see that pharmacists individually or collectively were better fitted to compound medicines than the limited stores or grocery company. Mr. Hardy pointed out other ways in which the Association was useful to its members, and said it was the intention of the committee to create a. more lively interest by offering prizes during the session for the best short essays read by the members on subjects selected by the committee. Mr. Hardy concluded his speech with an appeal to the employers to recognise their aims, and to give them such support as they could.

In moving a vote of thanks to the President, Mr. O'SULLIVAN commented on the conditions of pharmacy past and present, and commended the awards of prizes for the best essays. The Chemist and Druggist frequently offered prizes for essays, and that paper had a chemical corner, which was a most useful department in that it helped to draw out the energies of the younger pharmacists in competing for the awards. He thought they should take pattern by The Chemist and Druggist. The education of pharmacists was advancing. Chemistry was now included in the Preliminary examination of the Society as a compulsory subject. That was his idea from the beginning, and it was a wise policy of the Society to make chemistry compulsory, and he boped other subjects would be similarly classed. He also hoped to see the Pharmaceutical Society open a research-laboratory in Dublin, which Mr. Wells had

declared two years ago to be part of bis policy.

Mr. YOXALL seconded the vote of thanks, which was passed with acclamation.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT it was resolved to award, on two occasions each session, book-prizes to the value of ten shillings and five shillings respectively, the evenings set apart for the contest to be chosen by the committee, and the second or five-shilling prize to be given only in the event of not less than three competitors coming forward; the books to be chosen by the winners. It was further resolved that the subjects chosen for the competition should keep inside the limits of pharmacy, pharmaceutical science, chemistry, botany, and materia medica; each paper not to exceed ten minutes in the reading. It was stated that Mr. Robinson, late examiner to the Pharmaceutical Society, had kindly promised to read a paper on his experience of five years of pharmacy. Mr. TURNER said that Mr. W. F. Wells, expresident of the Society, had also consented to read a paper. (Applause.) Messrs Boileau & Boyd forwarded a subscription of 11. to the funds of the Association. Thanks were accorded to that firm, and it was hoped many other wholesale houses would follow the example. It was resolved to hold the second annual dance of the Association at an early date, to have a musical re-union shortly, and to wind up the ensuing session with the usual dinner. The formation of an employment-agency was approved of, and a committee was elected to report on the matter. The supply of tradeliterature to the members was also discussed, and referred to the committee.

THE ABERDEEN JUNIOR CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION

Dr. Beveridge, a prominent town councillor, gave a lecture on "Water and Water Supply" to this association on October 29. His principal purpose was to criticise the insufficient methods the Town Council had adopted for the purification of the river Dee. Considering the number of inhabitants on upper Deeside, and seeing the river Dee was the only exit for sewage, he considered the public of Aberdeen was not properly protected from contaminated water.

EDINBURGH CHEMISTS', ASSISTANTS', AND APPRENTICES' ASSOCIATION.

THE opening meeting of the twentieth session was held in the Pharmaceutical Society's House, Edinburgh, on October 29, Mr. George Sinclair, President, in the chair.

The report of the Prize Committee showed that only one cssay had been handed in for the botanical prize for the best report on the botanical excursions and summer meetings. This cssay, however, had reached such a standard of excellence as to enable the committee to highly commend it and award the prize to the author, Mr. David Bell Kidd, 139 Princes Street, Edinburgh.

Mr. John Bowman, President of the Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association, then presented the prize—a copy of Southall's "Materia Medica"—to Mr. Kidd, and in doing so intimated that he would have much pleasure in giving a donation of 1l. 1s. as a prize to be awarded for botanical knowledge.

The Chairman's inaugural address was on "The Pharmacist in his Relation to the Medical Profession." Mr. SINCLAIR said the subject was suggested to him by the title of a series of articles in one of the medical journals on "the relation of the trained nurse to the medical profession" It might appear to some that this subject was somewhat beyond the scope of an association largely composed of assistants and apprentices, but as such an association was educative, it was of importance to get right ideas on such a subject. We can never have the good old times back again, and it is no use sighing for them, and just about as little use adopting P.A.T.A. anti-cutting movements, or any such expedient for turning back the hands on the time-dial. If we are to survive as a profession, and not degenerate into mere advertising hucksters, we must draw closer the bonds which unite us to the great profession of medicine. Therein lies our one hope for the future; if we cannot do that, then the sooner we stock our windows with "job-lots," and advertise special lines at $11\frac{1}{2}d$., the better for us. The address was therefore an able advocacy of

cordial relations between doctor and pharmacist. They are the complement of each other, and ought to work to each other's hands. To this end the pharmacist must be well equipped intellectually, and should be up to date in all information about drugs and medicines, and should be absolutely trustworthy as to the preparation of the doctor's prescription.

NEWPORT (MON.) CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of chemists was held at the Westgate Hotel, Newport, on October 28, at which the Newport and Monmouthshire Chemists' Association was organised. Mr. Garret was in the chair, and was elected President, Mr. Paine Vice-President, Mr. Benson Harries (who convened the meeting) Secretary and Treasurer, and Messrs. Phillips, Smith, Young, Grath, and Lloyd Jones members of committee. It is intended to hold a dinner about Christmas. A few Cardiff chemists have promised to join in the festivity.

BEGINNINGS OF CHEMICAL ACTION.

On October 28 Professor Dunstan, F.R.S., Director of the Scientific Department of the Imperial Institute, opened the session of the Chemical Society of the Goldsmiths Institute, at New Cross, with an address on "The Beginnings of Chemical Action." The chair was taken by Sir F. A. Abel, Bart., K.C.B., President of the Society. Professor DUNSTAN first drew attention to the importance of learning more about the nature of some of the simpler chemical changes, and the conditions under which they take place. During recent years facts had been observed which make it evident that we are still a long way from understanding the precise conditions necessary for chemical action to occur. It had been found that some effects could not be produced without the presence of water, but at present we are without any satisfactory explanation of the necessity of this substance. Certain chemical combinations will not take place, or at any rate only with great difficulty, in the absence of water, as, for example, the union of carbon monoxide and oxygen, and of ammonia with hydrogen chloride. On the other hand the combination of hydrogen with chlorine, of hydrogen with oxygen, and several other changes, are little, if at all, affected by the absence of water. More information was needed about the conditions of chemical change in a number of cases before any explanation could be offered. Professor Dunstan alluded to some results he had obtained in an invesbullstain and the solutions necessary for the oxidation of metals by oxygen gas, or air, which would shortly be published. They showed that such an apparently simple action as the rusting of iron turned out to be a complicated chemical change, for the occurrence of which something more than oxygen and iron are necessary. He showed experiments proving that the commonly accepted view, that carbon dioxide was essential in this process, was not well founded, and proceeded to point out that iron would rust in its absence, provided that liquid water is present as well as oxygen. Further investigation had shown that a powerful oxidising agent, probably hydrogen peroxide, is concerned in the change, and the address concluded with a general discussion of the chemistry of aerial oxidation of metals. Professor Dunstan finally urged younger chemists to pay attention to the circumstances under which chemical action occurred, or did not occur, as such investigations were likely to do much to pave the way for the consideration of a general theory of chemical change.

On the motion of Sir F. ABEL a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer was carried by acclamation.

RUSSIAN PLATINUM. — In a recent article in Handel's Museum on the platinum industry of Russia, it is estimated that nearly 6,000 kilos. (119 cwt.) are placed on the market yearly, which is fifty times greater than that of all other sources put together. Russia, however, confines its attention to merely mining the ore, which is found entirely in the Southern Ural district. Germany imports the raw platinum, extracts the metal, and in turn supplies Russia with her requirements. At the present time the raw ore costs 451, per kilo.

Our Local Association.

IT fell out this way. There were, in round numbers, a dozen of us, all C. and D.'s with the exception of one, who, being an M.P.S., arrogated to himself the title of Pharmacist. some time our little town had led a quiet existence, and had done nothing to excite the envy of large capitalists. therefore had all the drug-trade to ourselves, and were lethargically content to pursue the even tenor of our ways, until a modern co-operative company cast a covetous eye on our profits, and started a store in our midst.

With dangerous self-confidence we scoffed at the idea of their having come to stay; and the sporting member of our fraternity offered to bet cigars round that their premises

would be vacant within a twelvemonth.

After a few months it became apparent, at our occasional whist-parties, that there was less talk than formerly as to who had sold so many gross of pills in the week, and who had been obliged to obtain drugs three times from London instead of the usual twice; moreover it was noticed that whoever dared venture on business topics at all spoke in enigmas, trying rather to sound us than "give himself

We should probably have gone along in that style until now, had it not been that the senior chemist of the town, who was local secretary of the Philanthropeutic Society, attended the annual meeting of that body, got button-holed by some of the great men he met there, and came back eager

to enrol members and rake in guineas.

A secondary idea of his was to found a local association for us, with the double purpose of presenting a united front to the enemy, and improving the social relations between us that had hitherto existed but with only feeble affinity

I well remember the evening on which that gentleman initiated us into the mysteries surrounding the internal works of such an association and it was quite evident that all that was necessary to be done was to pay a small sum into the coffers of the society, to ensure the public besieging us for Beecham's at $13\frac{1}{2}d$., which could be got at the stores for $9\frac{1}{2}d$.

How we gloated over the prospect of all that Philanthropeuticism was going to do for us, when we had handed over our dollars! After such tall talk and bright glimpses of the future, can it be wondered at that such a small matter as the formation of an association seemed to pale into iusignificance? But it had to be tackled, and tackled it was; but in so lugubrious a way that the impression conveyed to most of our minds was that the occasion would equally befit either the obsequies or inauguration of this our new venture.

No one would be nominated for the presidency, and we all failed to see the utility of electing a "vice" until a resident were forthcoming. Our senior confrère withstood, firmly but with dignity, all our endeavours to bestow on him the honour, giving as his reason that he preferred minding his own business to that of other people-a potent factor, perhaps, of his success in life. So after everyone had proposed everyone else with laudable perseverance, the most timid man in the room was chosen, without being allowed a voice

in the matter.

The position of secretary was quickly filled, although expected to carry with it many onerous duties, the gentle-man who offered himself having a taste for literary work, and a considerable confidence in his own powers in that direction.

After half an hour of balloting, the officers were duly elected; we then discovered to our chagrin that but one member remained who did not hold office; but our association being young, and we of sanguine temperament, the in definite words "and district" were embodied in its title, and we saw

no limit to the enlargement of its numbers.

Of course we arranged for a series of meetings. At the first four members were present, and talked about the subjectmatter for discussion at the next meeting. At our next meeting two of our confreres had a difference to adjust, on account of one having poached on the preserves of the other; hence no other business was transacted, that occasion. Sub-sequently we tried to arrange prices of patents, and for dispensing, but as all catered for different classes of customers no effective agreement could be arrived at.

Meanwhile the stores were flourishing, and our sporting

man lost his bet. Then there began to grow up a mutual distrust among us, none the less apparent from being partially masked. So many and such various interests being involved, we feared to meet lest, under scrutiny, we should play into the hands of one another. Our secretary was, I fcar, ill-fitted for the post, and did not help to lift us from the "Slough of Despond" to which we were surely tending. He was a man of a heavy order of architecture, and did nothing at the meetings but take notes of all we said, as if he were retained to obtain evidence in support of an action for libel.

A crisis was evidently approaching, to hasten which at one meeting but two members presented themselves, and, finding that they did not constitute a quorum, adjourned to the Blue Boar, where was discussed something stronger than pharmacy. What was to be done with an association that, so far from elevating the moral tone of its members, drove them (temporarily) to drink? Some means must be adopted, and those speedily, to galvanise us into action, and it was at last agreed on all sides that a social evening was the very thing to fan the flickering flame, and prevent us

from going astray.

"Of course we will bring our wives?" suggested a much-married man. "Think it advisable?" queried several (we had a big muster that night, being seven all told). So after many arguments for and against the inclusion of the fair sex (which arguments shall remain unrecorded, lest Mrs. Caudle be amongst your readers), it was decided, at any rate for the present, not to approach our spouses on the subject.

We booked an early evening for our "Smoker and Social Gathering," and for entertainment we assured ourselves there would be no lack, there being much latent talent amongst us, which would quickly mature, now the evening was fixed. It should therefore be quite an impromptu affair, and we would trust to genius to provide us with an evening's amusement.

The evening arrived, and, as the secretary had so far bestirred himself as to send us all a reminder, we felt elated at the prospect of success, and of an article being penned for the trade-journals, showing what might be done in the furtherance of sociability, even by a small association

properly organised. Some half-hour after the advertised time, we counted six arrivals, and of that number not one could vamp an accompaniment to the easiest of songs. To attempt singing without musical accompaniment would be to compromise one's dignity before our fellow-craftsmen; so after sundry efforts to be facetious, and pretend that we were having a lively time, the whole affair degenerated into a talk about the only subject in common—Shop.

That meeting was our last; and unless something extraordinary occurs to resuscitate it, such as our apprentices amalgamating to burn down the stores, I for one am certain that our local association, like many a one of greater pretensions, will fizzle out of existence with ignominy.

Trade Motes.

GOLD and silver medals have been awarded to Messrs Henry Marks & Sons (Limited), of Houndsditch, London, for their exhibit of sponges at the Brussels Exhibition.

MESSES. J. S. FRY & SONS, of Bristol, referring to the Grand Prix awarded to them at the Brussels Exhibition, inform us that their firm have taken more than 250 Grands Prix, gold medals and diplomas, at leading international exhibitions. Can any firm beat that record?

MESSES. DEATH & HARRIS, of the Albert Works, Leicester, have published an excellently-illustrated descriptive catalogue of their pill-making machinery, including Niblett's patent machines. They publish testimonials of these from a number of the great pill-makers. The catalogue also includes drawings and descriptions of various stills, hydraulic and other presses, drying and grinding machines, engines, and boilers. A copy of the list will be sent post free to auy druggist applying for one.

MISS BROWNING: "Just think! Will has won a prize of five guineas for a poem!" Miss Lee: "You don't say so? Soap or beef extract?"

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THE PHARMACY ACT AND ITS CRITICS.

It is not pleasant to watch the gradual development of an inaccurate legend in regard to an event so important historically to the pharmacists of this country as the passage of the Pharmacy Act of 1868. The ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society had some inexplicably bitter reminiscences of the Act, and by innuendo and direct aspersions managed to convey the impression that it was the outcome of somevery wicked conspiracy on the part of a lot of miscreants, whose great aim was to injure and undermine the work of the good and wise men who constituted the Pharmaceutical Society. The present Vice-President of the Society is infected with the same notion, and gave expression to it in his address to the Nottingham chemists, reported last week The Bill drafted by the Pharmaceutical Society, he said,

was defeated by the opposition of an ill-advised section of the trade; and he suggested that if this had not happened a much happier condition of pharmacy might have been hoped for

Of course, most chemists have a general idea of the circumstances of the controversy which resulted in the Act of 1863. The story is told in detail in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," and also in a scrupulously fair, though too brief a manner, in Dr. Redwood's continuation of Jacob Bell's historical sketch. But most of us have enough to do to keep up with the disputes of the present day, and can hardly spare time to rake up the ashes of past quarrels It is, however, only just to our predecessors to present the actual facts in something like their true light.

Let it be remembered, therefore, that for many years successive Governments, and many amateur members of Parliament had been trying to adopt some feasible scheme for the regulation of the sale of poisons. Some measure with this intention had to be enacted with or without the consent of chemists and druggists themselves. It is easy to be wise after the event, but it certainly seems amazing that, knowing how earnestly some law of this kind was 'desired, the successive Councils of the 'Pharmaceutical Society between 1852 and 1864, who were themselves always pining for further legislative protection, did not seize their chance to swim with the current, by drafting a Bill which would have fulfilled the wishes of the officials in the Home Office, grafting on to it such reasonable endorsement of their own organisation as should have seemed desirable. What they did was to criticise and oppose every scheme which was suggested in Parliament, but after the 1852 Act they never sought to attain their ends by a direct effort until they were stimulated to the labour by the activity in this direction of the United Society of Chemists and Druggists, which was founded in 1860, and which three or four years later was preparing a Bill which, if it could have been passed, would have given to that body the entire government of pharmacy in Great Britain. The Pharmaceutical Society were aroused and after a great deal of consultation produced their Bill If one of the two bodies is to be dubbed the "opposition," it would seem from this narrative that the Pharmaceutica Society must wear the cap.

The first condition of intelligent criticism of the Pharmaceutical Society's Bill would seem to be to read it. This Mr. Newsholme evidently did not take the trouble to do. He states that—

"The intentions of the Council of the Society at that time were that, after giving proof of a sound general education, followed by a real apprenticeship, would-be pharmacists should pass the Minor examination, and thus become qualified to act as assistants to pharmaceutical chemists; the right to carry on business independently being reserved to those who proceeded further with their studies and passed the Major examination."

This is absolutely incorrect. In the Bill, as printed in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* for May, 1864, the conditions of registration as a chemist and druggist were that he should have been in business as such, should have been registered as an assistant under the 1852 Act, or should be examined and receive a certificate of competent, skill, and knowledge; and it was specifically declared that the assistants' certificate should be deemed to be a certificate of competent skill and knowledge within the meaning of the Act.

In this respect, probably, the Bill was better than the Vice-President makes it out to have been. But our allegations against it are not concerned with this point. We say that no one can read the old Bill of 1864 without coming to the conclusions—first, that it would have been impossible to pass it through any Parliament; and, second, that it would

have been only of infinitesimal service to the trade if it ever could have been passed. No attempt whatever was made in it to regulate the sale of poisons. The difficulty of drawing a line, said the editorial writer of that date, has hitherto baffled all attempts at legislation in that direction; but that was the one thing that the Legislature wanted and insisted upon, and that, in a crude form, was what the United Society's Bill provided. The Pharmaceutical Society's Bill proposed to restrict titles to registered persons, and to render it penal for any other persons to keep open shop for the compounding of prescriptions of duly-qualified medical practitioners. The rights of medical mentin this respect were of course reserved. Nobody else, [then or now, has to any appreciable extent invaded this part of the chemists' business. The company difficulty would probably have occurred under that Bill as certainly as it did under the Act of 1868.

Considering that the Pharmacy Act had to be shaped out of two Bills, neither of which was exactly what the Legislature wanted, we think it may be described as a rather remarkable instance of parliamentary wisdom. It has been the model for a score of subsequent Pharmacy Acts all over the world, and modern judicial interpretations of it have proved its efficiency in a very substantial manner. We ask its critics in future to carefully study its history before they abuse it, and especially to be just to those chemists, not connected with the Pharmaceutical Society, who did the better part of the work in framing it.

A ROYAL ROAD TO SUCCESS.

PHARMACISTS, if any such there be, who depend on the journal issued by the Pharmaceutical Society for guidance in the politics of their profession, must have found themselves in a sea of difficulties when they consulted their oracle last week. "The Question of an Intermediate Examination" was the topic propounded, and with some diffidence we brace ourselves to the task of extracting the threads of wisdom from the confused pile of comments, contradictions, and sneers which the Bloomsbury scribe has shovelled together.

First we are informed that the President had, at Shoffield, a fortnight previously, expressed his belief in the desirability of such an examination "on certain lines," a qualification which may mean little or much. comes a lengthy paragraph directed against the idea which has been suggested in some quarters advocating that the "Intermediate" might carry with it an assistants' qualification, a proposal which has been several times condemned in these pages. But the Vice-President of the Society, in his paper at Nottingham last week, "clearly explained" that this was just what the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society aimed at, and would have carried in 1868 if it had not been for "the opposition of an illadvised section of the trade." Obviously Mr. Newsholme suggested that a qualification lower than the full was a desideratum. It would hardly do to criticise the Vice-President, so the ingenious idea is hit upon of saddling us with his heresy and demonstrating loyalty to the Society by the denunciation of our convenient selves. So the Pharmaceutical Journal writes as follows :-

To-day, however, the business descendants of many who opposed the complete scheme [that is the scheme of having an assistants' qualification, which Mr. Newsholme says was lost in consequence of the opposition of the ill-advised section] are clamouring for reversion to a position resembling but inferior to that originally aimed at. Support of this suggestion by a trade organ owing most of its commercial success to censorious opposition to the Pharmaceutical Society is a curious phenomenon.

If the trade organ means THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and we may assume that it does, the assertion is altogether inaccurate. In an article on "The Pharmaccutical Weak Spot," published on October 9, we wrote:—

What is wanted is an Intermediate examination in elementary botany and chemistry, pharmacy, and pharmaceutical Latin, to be conducted in writing, and to which candidates would be eligible on and after their 18th birthday, and at least one year before entering for their Minor examination. The Intermediate examination should carry with it no qualification and no certificate, but should be considered, as the "First" is, a preliminary step to the Minor.

There is no excuse for assuming from that paragraph, or from any other that we have published, that we have supported the suggestion of an assistants' qualification. The suggestion is, indeed, specifically opposed. In this matter we happen to be in accord with the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, and that we presume can hardly be a reason for questioning the wisdom of our conclusion.

But, passing from that subject, we call attention to the unreasonableness of the abuse applied to us. Following the remark we have quoted, we read that:

Just as any stick may serve to beat a dog with, so any pretence serves to abuse a body which has been instrumental in securing to that organ such notoriety as has fallen to its share. But surely chemists and druggists are sufficiently wideawake to detect the self-interest manifested in the overtures made to them by this journalistic Rip van Winkle, which has just made a wonderful discovery of what was apparent to others many years ago. And they certainly ought not to require warning that they should beware of advice tendered by candid friends (?) who are admittedly biassed in all that concerns the welfare of the only body that is and can be truly representative of the craft and its best interests.

And the writer concludes his homily with the familiar, but in this instance perfectly inappropriate, contraction, rerb. sap. Probably he regards that as a sort of amen or selah.

We have it, therefore, on the authority of the official organ of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain that censorious opposition to itself is the royal road to success, at any rate in journalism. Our contemporary has himself made such various and generally such vain struggles after success that we wonder he has not tried even this experiment. He might not be able to do it cleverly, but, as he has done in other departments, he could "try," as the novice said when he was asked to play the violin.

But, seriously, is it not rather childish to regard difference of opinion as "censorious opposition," and still more to suppose that any sort of success could be achieved by such a contemptible policy as we are charged with? The questions which the Pharmaceutical Society has to deal with are those which it is our duty to discuss. The Society's policyeducational, legal, legislative, executive-must offer various points of view, and we have presented these, as far as we know, with the utmost fairness. If our own view has been sometimes opposed to that held officially, we have not only been willing, but we have gone out of our way to ensure that both sides of the case shall be fairly brought forward. There have been many instances where our "opposition," if it may be so called, has served the Society well. We recall especially the Wheeldon case, which was carried to the High Court by means of a subscription organised in these pages for the express purpose of getting an authoritative decision as to the qualification of vendors of poisons. How our self-interest could be advanced by such tactics as those attributed to us we cannot conceive. But we may point out that the assumption of infallibility, and the resentment of all

criticism, is at least as objectionable to intelligent debaters as censorious, by which we suppose is meant factious, opposition.

THE "YEAR-BOOK."

PROMPTER than ever comes the British Pharmaceutical Conference's Annual to us, but those who have not yet paid their three half-crowns to the institution will not see the colour of the cover until the treasurer sees the colour of their money. The Year-book is bigger this year than it was last, when it was preternaturally thin, and we have enjoyed the contents in an hour's sampling. There is nothing new in the arrangement of the book, the first half of which is devoted to abstracts of the pharmaceutical literature of the year, and the second to a fairly good report of the proceedings of the Glasgow Conference. Mr Louis Siebold continues to edit the former part with due circumspection, and in his interesting introduction strikes a note with which we so largely sympathise that we here reprint it:—

The most notable feature of the pharmaceutical literature of the past year consists unquestionably in the very large increase in the number of new remedies which have been brought under notice. It is now about a dozen years since the assistance given by chemistry to therapeutics first took the shape of bringing "synthetical remedies" to the front; and it is but natural that the great success attending the initial steps in this new departure have led to further and increased efforts in the same direction. Thus, year by year, the tendency to enrich the resources of materia medica by the products of the laboratory have continued to extend, and the stream of these new remedies is now so constant that it is a somewhat difficult matter to keep abreast of it. The tendency referred to has become a fashiou, and, being now no longer confined to well-trained investigators and matured chemical thinkers, it almost threateus to become a mania. It is not surprising, therefore, that many of the numerous products so hastily thrown on the market are of a more or less inferior type. There is no lack of productious clearly traceable to scientific work similar to that which gave rise to the introduction of antipyrine, phenacetin, autifebrin, &c.; but there are many others having no claim to be regarded as synthetical remedies in any sense, and consisting merely of mixtures of chemicals or drugs introduced under fanciful and often misleading names.

We do not agree with Mr. Siebold that last year (i.e., 1896-7) was an exceptionally bad year for new remedies. number of synthetic compounds introduced was not large, and he has apparently been deceived by the tendency which some journals-printed in German generally, but some are in English-have recently taken of reproducing from each other all sorts of things under the common title "New Remedies." A large proportion of these products are too obviously "fakes," and it seems a pity that so much publicity should be given to them. There are examples in the Iear-book list of several things, with fancy or trade names, which are secret preparations, and which ought never to be so classed. Nor is it right that such preparations as lacto-maltine should be treated seriously in a class beginning with "Tuberculin (Koch)." In our experience it is almost possible to prophesy at the beginning of one year that there will be forthcoming during that year a few derivatives of phenetidin to rival phenacetin, some iodoform substitutes, imitations of creolin, and maybe a mixture of acetanilide with a heart-tonic; but of genuine synthetic remedies, carefully produced by the chemist, proved by the physiologist, and tried by the therapeutist, only a few see the light. Indeed, we must remark that of late years too many remedies have been put forward with nothing else to back them than the trials in chemical laboratories, and entirely without clinical experience in their use as remedies. While Mr. Sicbold's note is timely, he is scarcely up to date in respect to a few of the things mentioned-eg., somatose, takadiastase, and lactopeptin are certainly more than a

We should have liked to have seen more about celandine than Denissenko's note, as several useful bits published before July were available. Might we suggest, also, the desirability of referring to controversies occasionally? This is suggested by the notes on otto of rose on pages 189 and 190, by Mr. J. C. Umney and others. It will be remembered that the original papers gave rise to a highly interesting correspondence in our columns, and although Mr. Barrett's letters are abstracted, there is no reference to the result of the correspondence as a whole. We would also suggest that the references to the C. & Dshould be put differently. We publish two volumes a year, and the Year-book gives its references thus-" (C. & D., 1896, 795)"— when it really means the second volume of the year -i.e., C. & D., vol. xlix., page 796. The volume is again prefaced with the portrait of the President of the year, Dr. Symes.

THE POSITION OF QUININE.

THE present week has witnessed a revival of speculative interest in quinine in the London market. The total turnover of second-hand German bulk for speculative purposes is estimated at fully 100,000 oz., of which 70,000 oz. changed hands on Tuesday alone. Up to a few days ago it seemed as though all life were out of the market, and, had there been any buyers, business could probably have been concluded at 1s. 13d. per oz. This condition of things, however, did not last beyond Monday of this week, when the real strength of the market revealed itself in the manner of bark and quinine contributed to the improvement. The described above. No doubt the favourable statistical position monthly exports of cinchona bark from Java, which are watched narrowly nowadays as one of the leading factors in the commercial position of the article, were made known on Tuesday, and showed moderate figures. There is, indeed, some uncertainty as to the precise amount, one cablegram giving the total shipments for October as 819,000 half kilos., another as 735,000 half kilos., but even if the higher figure prove correct, the total does not exceed that of October 1896, which was 820,000 half kilos. In any case there is a diminution of nearly 1,800,000 half kilos. in the shipments from Java during the current year as compared with January-October 1896. The bark stock in Amsterdam is small, and the bulk of it is to be offered for auction on Thursday. The of this sale will be found in our Trade Report pages. The stock in London is of low average quality, and is steadily diminishing. As a small set-off against these mportant factors, there is the fact that, for the first time since many months, the stock of quinine in the London warehouses has actually increased during the month of October. According to the official returns 62,896 oz. were landed, and only 18,048 oz. were delivered during that month, leaving us, on October 31, with a warehouse-stock of 1,476,944 oz., against 1,444,784 oz. on October 31, 1896. This increase, however, is of small moment, and means nothing more than a temporary check of the diminution in our quinine supply which has been going on steadily for several years. A question of greater interest, but much more difficult to answer, is that of the amount of bark and quinine in stock at the factories, especially the German ones. In the absence of any clear knowledge of this factor it is quite impossible to forecast the future of the quinine-market with any degree of accuracy. There have not been wanting signs lately that the "understanding" between the leading quinine works is not so close as it was. To be sure, they all observe great care in the booking of orders, and they seem determined not to let speculators get hold of sufficient supplies to manipulate the market, but

there is an uncomfortable feeling that, if a sudden onset of speculative energy should show itself, or if prices advanced much more, one or two of the German works would again be drawn into that system of selling huge quantities for future delivery which proved so fatal to the commercial stability of quinine a few years ago.

As for the London stock of quinine, a large portion of it is in the hands of wealthy firms who acquired their holdings at an average price much in excess of that now ruling. These firms have never shown much anxiety to sell, and they will do so least of all at a time when most observers incline to the view that a further advance in the drug is a question of a short time only. It seems pretty certain that the Java plantations cannot again yield the huge quantities harvested in 1895 and 1896 at anything like the low unit-prices of those years, and the plan of the Dutch-Indian Government to reduce its large plantations of rich bark to a mere experimental station, like those of British India, must have a further stimulating effect upon the market. The scheme is at present only under consideration, but the expert employed by the Government to report upon it is favourable to it, and there is therefore little doubt that it will be carried out before long. What this means is best seen from the fact that about 12 per cent. of the Java bark shipments of the past five years has been Government bark. And as the Dutch Indian Government are avowedly taking this step in the interests of the private planters, it is not likely that they will take away with one hand what they give with the other by allowing the produce of their uprooted plantations to be sold at any price at the Amsterdam auctions. Looking at the position all round it certainly seems that still higher prices will rule for cinchona-bark, and probably for quinine, within the next few months.

ANDREW LANG ON CUTTING.

Mr. Andrew Lang ought to be made an honorary member of the P.A.T.A. forthwith. In a clever article on "The Bookselling Question" in the November number of Chapman's Magazine, he deals with the cutting-question in the most up-to-date fashion. He recognises that the subject of booksellers' discounts "includes the whole metaphysics of commerce;" we do not think it goes so far as that, but it at any rate comprehends the equally sore subject of profits on patent-medicines. The bookseller, he says, finds that if he does not give a discount of 3d. in the shilling, another bookseller will undersell him. The bookseller, the publisher, the author, and the public, he notices, are all interested in this, and he proposes to abolish the discount-system. "I see no reason," he says, "why the public should get any discount... You get no discount on fishing-rods. Why say that the price of a book is 6s. when it is only 4s. 6d.?... The public dearly love their penny or twopence not for itself, but as a proof of worldly wisdom." And he points out how the system affects authors. "I write a book; certain persons want to read it. the circulating-libraries say it is out; the booksellers say it is out of print; the would-be readers forget all about it; and there is an end of the matter." That the publishers can make conditions with the retail vendors seems to him obvious. "They may legally refuse to vend "The Christian" to any bookseller who declines to sign the Thirty-nine Articles-or so I presume. If all publishers and all booksellers agree about the limit of discount, the problem is so far solved." Mr. Lang hits the mark. It is to the interest of authors at one end of the scheme that booksellers at the other should be interested as in the sale of their new books. Need we apply the argument to the pill-business?

ADULTERATED BEER.

The Birmingham Gazette having commented on the satisfactory result of the inquiry into beer-adulteration made by

a recent Royal Commission, "A Member of the Pharmaceutical Society" has written to that paper expressing his doubts as to the sonndness of the conclusion. He asserts that it is within his own knowledge that a firm of wholesale druggists had an order for 100 oz. of quinine knowing it was for a browery. The senior partner mentioned the matter to the Excise authorities, and asked if he was justified in selling the quinine, and was told he was, because it displaced nothing exciseable. The writer also reports that in his youth a brewer asked his employer for samples of vinegar. In reply to a question the employer explained to him that that was how they made old ale. He further questions if all the tons of quassia imported into the country are used for medicinal purposes or for killing flies, and suggests that every cask of beer, if unadulterated, should be labelled distinctly, "Made from malt and hops only."

GREGORY'S POWDER.

The action under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act for the sale of Gregory's powder made with carbonate of magnesia instead of with calcined magnesia, on which we commented

appointed liquidator, and paid all liabilities ont of the purchase consideration. The friends who had "kindly" assisted him in the matter were adequately recompensed, and he now remains the sole interested party. A meeting of the shareholders to receive the accounts has been announced, but a quorum did not attend, and the final decision of the Registrar as to the ultimate fate of the concern has yet to be made.

MEDICAL QUALIFICATION IN THE U.S.A.

Dr. W. D. Hamaker, a member of the State Board of Medical Examiners, writing in the Pennsylvania Medical Journal, gives a list of some of the answers picked up in the examination last June. As samples of spelling he quotes tong, saults, brougham (for broom), serratim (for ceratum), fley (for fly), flyes (for flies), shngar, fur-tree, rouchsheel (for rochelle). pnltz (for pulse), soar, puss (for pus), corpustle, and pacients. From the materia medica and medical examinations he gives the following specimens:—

"Hydrogen gass is degenerated from the urea." "Cantharides is derived from the root of the plant." "Pix liquida is from the

Magnesia (usta) p. VI,
Pulvevis Rhei palmati p. jj.
Amomi Lingiberis fi. j.
Misse.

Dig: Magnesia and Mhubarb.

last wcck, has snggested to Mr. Joseph Ince the kind thought of sending us an original prescription for the powder in Dr. Gregory's own handwriting. Mr. Ince says the prescription was given to him by Mr. Jacob Bell, and we understand that Mr. Ince nsed it in his lectures to students at the School of Pharmacy.

NO FURTHER USE FOR THE COMPANIES ACTS.

A curious illnstration of the nse that may be made of the Companies Acts is to be found in the formation of the Walton Drug Company (Limited), which was registered on July 11, 1896, with a capital of 500% in 1% shares, to carry on a general chemists' business at 137 County Road, Liverpool. Twohundred and fifty-seven shares were taken up and paid for in fulk. Mr. G. Oldershaw, in expressing a wish that the name of the company may be struck off the register, states that on his "becoming a qualified surgeon, he could not, under the rules of the Royal College of Surgeons, continue to carry on business as a chemist." The business was therefore transferred to the company and carried on under the management of his assistant, who on becoming fully qualified, took it over on his own account. The original vendor was thereupon

Pinus Somniferous group." "Cantharides is derived from the destructive distillation of the Spanish fly." "The malar bone articulates with the occipital bone." "Picrotoxin is an alkaloid of senna and rhnbarb." "Spartein and eserine are alkaloids of somnis papaverum." One candidate said that "Spartein was derived from Sparta," and another said it was derived from Spartus. Among the remaining gems of the examination were the discoveries "that vinegar was an antidote for mineral acid poisons," that "an infusion of Spanish fly was one of the official preparations," "that the "uriniferous tnbules secrete the seminal fluid," that belladonna locks up all of the secretions except the urine and feces." and that "the differential diagnosis between epilepsy aud hysteria is that in epilepsy they fall on the stove and burn themselves, and in hysteria they don't." A student of obstetrics said that in rigid os he would "decapitate or perform craniotomy, or would put on the forceps and deliver at once." Another in performing version "would put his finger in the child's month and bring the chin under the os pubis and holds his hand over the mouth to prevent the liqnor amnia from choking it." We also learn "that the endocardium is a mncous membrane which weighs 2 oz., and is separated from the pleura by the pericardium;" that the function of the optic nerve is to contract the pupil and move the eyeball," and "that in cerebral hemorrhage the patient may vomit the cerebro-spinal fluid."

But the most surprising statement of all is the sentence with which the doctor concludes his contribution. "And yet all these men have diplomas!"

Legal Reports.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT. Spt. Æth. Nit.

ON October 29, before Mr. Bros, at North London Police Court, Mr. Robert Sharpe, chemist and druggist, of 255 Well Street, Hackney, was summoned by the Hackney Vestry for selling 4 oz. of spirit of nitre (for which $10\frac{1}{2}d$. was paid) which was certified by the public analyst to be deficient of its active principle—viz., ethyl nitrite—to the extent of 50 per cent. Mr. Tiddeman, solicitor to the Vestry, was present to prosecute, and was armed with the British Pharmacopæia, Dr. Warry (medical officer of health), and Samuel Punter (sanitary inspector), who made the purchase; but the defendant said he would save time, and admit that the article was as described in the certificate. But he would like to explain. The bulk from which this purchase was taken was delivered from the wholesale house in a quart bottle (corked), and his assistant, who received it, failed to put it into the properly-stoppered stock-bottle. The result was that the spirit had evaporated, and left the stuff in the condition in which it was found by the inspector. He had purchased it as of the B.P. standard, and had sold it as such. He did not say for one moment that he did not receive it of B.P. strength. All he could advance was that the cork was not sufficient to retain the spirit. This kind of drug was prone to go wrong unless properly looked after, and he was sorry his assistant did not do so. In reply to Mr. Bros (Magistrate) the inspector said he had taken samples of other goods at the shop on previous occasions and found them correct. Mr. Tiddeman: I have investigated this case, and have no reason to doubt the defendant's explanation.

Mr. Bros: Very well, then. If the defendant pays the expenses of the analysis and summons (12s. 6d.) I will dismiss the case. The Defendant: Thank you, sir.

COUNTY COURT CASES. THE PAUPER'S WART-CURE.

AT Sevenoaks, on October 28, before Judge Emden, an inmate of the Workhouse, named Burton, sued a man named Mount for 15s. 6d., due for "services rendered." From the evidence, it appeared that plaintiff attended defendant's daughter and "doctored" her for the removal of warts from her body. Attempts were made to elicit what special method he employed, but without success. At the time he charged 1s., but as the money was not paid he made several journeys to defendant's house, and when asked to account for the difference in the charges he explained that he had charged for the journeys, and added that his claim was for "curing warts and attendance." His Honour gave a verdict for the defendant with costs.

CHEMISTS' DEBTS.

At the Westminster County Court, on Tuesday, before Judge Lumley Smith, Q.C., the Mutual Loan Fund Association, on a judgment summons, asked for the committal of a Mr. Bartlett, described as a chemist, carrying on business at Chelsea. The debtor did not appear, and his Honour made an order for payment in a month, subject to committal for twelve days, in default.

At the Westminster County Court, on Tuesday, the Civil Service Bank sought to enforce judgment against a Blackfriars chemist, named Andrews, and another, for money lent. Neither of the defendants appeared, and his Honour made an order for payment by instalments of 2*l*. a month.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re George Taylor, 17 Strafforth Terrace, Denaby Main, Chemist and Druggist.

A MEETING of the creditors of this bankrupt was held at Sheffield on October 29. The Official Receiver stated that the debtor owed to unsecured creditors 96l. 12s. 10d., and he

estimated his assets to be worth 10%. He had been a chemist's assistant, and eighteen months ago he commenced business on his own account with a capital of 5%. The house and furniture were claimed by his wife. In reply to the Official Receiver debtor said his stock had run down, and was worth only 3%. He had never had more than 30%, worth at any one time, although he insured it and the furniture for 20%. He insured the furniture in error, as it was only worth 30%. He had borrowed 19% from Isaac Gordon, money-lender, Birmingham, through Charles Warren, Leeds, but he did not inform them that his wife claimed the furniture. He only gave the value. The winding-up of the estate was left with the Official Receiver

Re LLEWELLYN VOSPER REES, 11 Woodwell Crescent, Hotwells, Bristol, trading as Rees & Co., chemist.

This debtor appeared for his public examination on October 29 at the Bristol Bankruptcy Coart. Mr. Dixon, who represented him, stated that he had been carrying on business at 11 Woodwell Crescent, Hotwells, under the name of Rees & Co., as a chemist. In answer to Mr. Darley (chief clerk to the Official Receiver), debtor said he commenced business with 1502, borrowed money, and attributed his insolvency to illness and depreciation of the business caused by his illness. The business had been sold. The Registrar adjourned the examination to November 12.

R Chs. Le Sueur, lately chemist at Charing Cross, Jersey and also cycle-dealer at Cheapside, Jersey.

THE insolvent's stock of some fifty cycles was sold before the sub-Sheriff last week. The sum of 276l. was realised. The sale of the chemist's stock-in-trade, &c., was commenced on the following day.

Re HERMANN POTHS, trading as H. Poths & Co., 3 Creechurch Lane, E.C.

A PRIVATE meeting of the creditors of this firm was held at the Guildhall Tavern on November 3, when a statement of the affairs of the debtor was submitted, and a proposal from Messrs. Johnsen & Jörgensen to buy the business as a going concern was considered. There was no opposition, and if adopted we understand the creditors will get about 15s. in the pound, and the business will be continued as before, with Mr. Poths as manager.

Bazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Fripp, J. T., and Harwood, E. W., under the style of Pripp & Harwood, Station Road, Willesden, N.W., and Sloane Street, Cheisea, S.W., dental surgeons.

Godwin, J. T., Watts, A., and Maslen, C. O., under the style of J. L. Godwin & Co., Worthing, Sussex, grocers, provision merchants, and patent-medicine vendors.

Harding, G. C., and Jones, W. S., under the style of the College Park Drng-stores, Harlesden, chemists, druggists, and storekeepers.

Hartigan, T. J. P., and Edwards, C. W., under the style of Hartigan & Edwards, East Grinstead, physicians and surgeons.

Hedley, E. A., and Hedley, A., under the style of Thomas Hedley & Co., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, soap-manufacturers.

Hough, J., and Jones, E. L., under the style of Hough & Lleyd

Hough, J., and Jones, E. L., thater the style of A. Waltan & Co.

Walton, A., and Sheldon, E., under the style of A. Walton & Co., Milnsbridge, near Huddersfield, and Manchester, chemical-manufacturers.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Pearson, Thomas Robert, Harrogate, surgeon.

Robinson, Benjamin, Hogsthorpe, Lincolnshire, grocer and drug-dealer.

Todd, James Herbert, Rushden, manufacturer of artificial teeth.

Deed of Hrrangement.

Riding, Joseph John, 549 London Road, Heeley, Sheffield, chemist and druggist. Trustee, Charles Keeling, 9 Fig Tree Lane, Sheffield, accountant. Dated, October 26; filed, October 28. Liabilities unsecured, 103. 11s. 11d.; estimated net assets, 50d. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

				Ţ	8.	a.	
Bai	ss Brothers, London		 	 11	0	0.	N
Cla	que & Steinbridge, Sheffield		 	 12	0	.0	
Eva	ans, Sons & Co., Liverpool	٠.	 	 10	Ó	0	

Hew Companies and Company Hews.

AUTOMATIC SYPHON SUPPLY (LIMITED).—Capital, 5,000 l., in 4,750 1l. ordinary, and 5,000 ls. founders' shares. Objects: To enter into an agreement with Harry Campbell, and Henry Deffett & Co. (Limited), and to acquire, own and work an invention for the automatic supply of mineral-waters and other liquids in exchange for coins.

PIONEER OIL COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 500l., in 1l. shares (300 15 per cent. cumulative preference). To acquire and carry on the business of oil importers and merchants, carried on by a company of the same name. Edward Taylor is the managing director, with 104l. per annum. Registered office, 39 Corporation Street, Birmingham.

ALCOHOL SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects; To enter into an agreement with Harry W. Christmas for the acquisition of certain patents and rights for a process of manufacturing alcohol and other products, and to carry on the business of wine, spirit, and beer merchants, manufacturing chemists, drysalters, &c. Regis tered without articles of association. Registered office 35 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

Cussef-Vichy Mineral-water Syndicate (Limited)—Capital, 25,000*l.*, in 4*l.* shares. Objects: To enter into an agreement with H. L. E. B. St. Hilaire, and to acquire and carry on the hydrotherapeutic establishment known as "The Establishment Thermal de Ste. Marie" at Cusset, near Vichy, Department of l'Allier, France, together with the springs known as "Ste. Marie" and "Elisabeth." Registered office, 5 Moorgate Street Buildings, E.C.

J. H. Cookson & Son (Limited).—Capital 59,000%, in 10% shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of alum, chemical and brick manufacturers carried on by James H. Cookson and Henry Cookson at Lofthouse, near Wakefield, Yorks, as J. H. Cookson & Son. The first directors are James H. Cookson (chairman, with 300% per annum), Henry Cookson (managing director, with 300% per annum), George W. Pratt and John H. Phillips. Qualification, 500%. Remuneration, 25% each per annum.

G. GUILLOU (LIMITED).—Capital 120,000l., in 1l. shares (60,000 6l. per cent. cumulative preference). Objects: To enter into an agreement with Guillou for the acquisition of the business carried on in France and clsewhere as "Veritable tisane des Quakers," and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalters, oil and colourmen, and manufacturers and importers of, and dealers in, pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical and other preparations. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—R. J. Jenner, Constitutional Club, S.W., director; T. F. Scourfield, 1 Ashburnham Road, Şouthend, secretary; R. Watson, 6 Wilkinson Street, Clapham Road, S.W., engineer; E. L. Cozens, 31 Hazelville Road, Hornsey Rise, N., clerk; W. Best, 2 St. George's Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W., gentleman; T. A. Walker, 35 Farrance Street, Burdett Road, E., clerk; C. J. Knight, 3 Broad Street House, E.C., clerk. Directors' qualification, 100l. Remuneration, 200l. each per annum, and 250l. for the chairman.

DRUGGISTS' PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 25,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (8,000 6*l.* per cent. cumulative preference). Objects: To acquire the copyright and goodwill of *The British and Colonial Druggist*, to enter into an agreement with J. F. Cantwell, to acquire the goodwill and business of "The Chemists' Exhibition," and to carry

on the business of newspaper proprietors, printers, publishers booksellers, stationers, advertising agents, business transfer agents, and valuers. The first subscribers (each with one preference share) are:—John W. T. Morrison, 2 Osnaburgh Street, N.W., chemist and druggist; Richard Thomas, 13 Upper Baker Street, pharmaceutical chemist; William Blissett, 1 Princess Road, Kilburn, chemist and druggist; Frank W. Bennett, 315 Edgware Road, chemist and druggist; Edward Kent, 20 Royal Exchange, E.C., chemist and druggist; Benjamin Richards, 404 Essex Road, N., chemist and druggist; William Felton, 253 Ball's Pond Road, N., chemist and druggist. The first directors (to number not fewer than two, nor more than six) are to be nominated by the subscribers. Qualification, 100%. Remuneration, 100%, each per annum. J. F. Cantwell is to be the managing director, and may remain in office so long as he is able and willing to discharge the duties.

MESSES. JOHN OAKEY & SONS (LIMITED) have posted warrants for the ninth dividend on the 6-per-cent. preference shares, payable November 1.

BRUNNER, MOND & Co.—The directors have declared an interim dividend for the half-year ended September 13 of 20 per cent., free from income-tax, on the ordinary shares, and a dividend of 7 per cent., subject to income-tax, on the preference shares.

IDRIS & CO. (LIMITED).—The directors report for the year ending September 30, 1897, shows a net profit for the year, after charging interest on debentures and writing off depreciations, of 12,017l. 9s. 10d., which with 798l. 17s. 1d. brought forward from 1896, makes the total amount of 12.8161.6s. 11d. standing to the credit of profit and loss account. The directors recommend dividends of 6 per cent. on the A preference shares; 7 per cent. on the B preference shares; 10 per cent. on the A ordinary shares; 10 per cent. on the B ordinary shares; and 5 per cent. on the founders' shares. These payments absorb 8,175l. 5s. 6d. The balance, it is proposed, shall be applied as follows:-Reserve fund (which will then stand at 25,000*l.*), 2,972*l.* 5s.; profit-sharing and benevolent funds, 500*l.*; carried forward to next account, 1,168*l.* 16s. 5*d.* Although the season this year proved to be a very short one, the directors report that the sales continue to show a steady increase. The branches at Southampton and Liverpool are making satisfactory progress. It is expected that the Southampton factory will be completed in time for next season. The directors have also purchased a freehold estate of over 1,100 acres at Cader Idris. At present the property yields a fair interest on the purchase-money, and the directors believe that by a moderate expenditure on improvements the income from this investment may be increased considerably. The recent issue of 50,000 A preference shares was largely over-subscribed.

& F. PEARS (LIMITED). - Mr. Thomas J. Barratt presided over the fifth annual meeting of the shareholders in this company, held on October 28. In moving the adoption of the report, he said the net profit was much the same as last year, considering that there was a profit of 2,000 l. then from the sale of their debentures. In the course of his remarks he said that there were many forms of competition, but dishonesty was one which was much to be deprecated. Formerly vendors of Pears' soap had a profit on the marked price of 50 per cent., but, as the result of competition, a good deal of this profit had been given away, and the vendors now wanted more. The company were, however, unable to increase their discount. Many of them had been endcavouring to sell a different article from that asked for, and, as one means of inducing people to buy something else, they had resorted to the statement that Pears' soap was not as good as it formerly was. Some people had believed this tale, and he wanted to take that opportunity of assuring them that they had never made a better article than they were vending that day. Their net profit for the year had been 62,000l. They recommended a dividend shares, at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the preference shares, at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum for the half-year on the ordinary shares (making 10 per cent. for the year on these shares), and the payment of a dividend for the year at the rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum on the deferred ordinary shares, leaving a balance to be carried forward of

Personalities.

Mr. Wm. Williams, chemist and druggist, has been reelected a member of the Haverfordwest Town Council.

Mr. LAWSON JOHNSTON, the Bovril inventor, or his son, has purchased the Prince of Wales's yacht, Britannia.

Mr. E. NEALE, chemist, of Chippenham, has been reelected a member of the Chippenham Town Council. Mr. Neale has been a member of the Corporation since 1880.

Mr. C. J. Wain, pharmaceutical chemist, was returned unopposed for the West Ward of the borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme. Three years ago he was placed at the head of the poll.

Mr. COUNCILLOR T. L. HOLLELY, pharmaceutical chemist, of East Retford, has lighted his shop with twenty electric lights. This is the first introduction of the electric light to East Retford.

THE coming W.M. of the "Canterbury Lodge" is Mr. F. C. Van Duzer, not Mr. S. R. Van Duzer, as stated last week. Mr. F. C. Van Duzer is also connected with the wholesale drug firm of Southampton Row, W.C.

Mr. W. T. OWBRIDGE has been defeated in the City Council election at Hull, and Mr. Samborne Cook, who contested one of the Nottingham wards against an old member, came out 35 below his rival, with 899 votes.

Mr. James M. Anderson, manufacturing chemist, Leith, was an unsuccessful candidate for the representation of Broughton Ward in the Edinburgh Town Council, his opponent, a well-known Radical in the ward, having obtained a majority of 444.

The will of Mr. Harry Coghill, of the firm of H. Coghill Sons, borax-manufacturers, and a director of Brunner, Mond & Co. (Limited), who died on September 18, has been proved by Mr. Archibald F. Coghill, Mr. Douglas H. Coghill, M.P., and Mr. Percy de G. Coghill, the sons and executors of the testator, whose personalty is sworn at 388,541*l.* 18s. 2d. gross and 356,628*l.* 9s. 2d. net.

A PARAGRAPH in the Times, entitled "Links with the Past," brought a day or two afterwards a letter from Sir William Crookes, the famous chemist, giving an item of family history which, we should think, will hardly be capped. Sir William Crookes says that his father, Joseph Crookes, died in 1884, at the age of 92. He (Sir W. Crookes) has often heard his father relate how, when a boy, he was interested in hearing from his great-grandmother, Mrs. Lound, then over 100, anecdotes and incidents connected with the great plague of 1665, which had been told the events of that year. The narrator, Sir William's greatgreat-great-great-grandfather, was born about the year 1639, and lived at Staveley, in Derbyshire, whither the plague was brought in 1665 by refugees from London. He was one of the few who took the plague and recovered, although it settled in his hip and made him lame. He died in 1729. His granddaughter (Mrs. Lound) was born in 1710, and died in 1814, aged 105. Joseph Crookes (Sir William's father) was born in 1792 and died in 1884.

Business Changes.

THE business of Mr. E. Histed, Upper St. James's Street, Brighton, has been taken over by Mr. A. H. Cupit.

THE homoeopathic business of Mr. Williams has been removed from Western Road to Preston Street, Brighton.

Mr. F. G. HOLORAN has purchased the business lately carried on by Mr. W. Hayhoe, 128 Dereham Road, Norwich.

Mr. G. M. Stark, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business of the late Mr. John Hall, Gatehouse Fleet, Kirkcudbrightshire. Mr. I. Arden, late of Ramsgate, has purchased, through the agency of Messrs. Berdoe & Co., the business of Mr. J. Garnett, at 110 High Street, Winchester.

MESSRS. GOLDTHORPE & COOK, chemists and druggists, Woolwich and Plumstead, have opened a new branch establishment at 68 High Street, Chatham (Kent).

Mr. A. J. Pratt, for the last eight years a partner in the firm of Cruse & Co., of Southsea, has purchased the oldestablished business of Mr. John Sargant, of Reigate.

Mr. H. S. Hankinson, pharmaceutical chemist, has lately opened a new shop in the Albert Road, Ilford. Mr. Philip Josephs, of Old Street, has fitted the establishment.

MR. FREDERICK MARCH, who purchased Holloway's London Drug-stores at Torquay, through the agency of Messrs. Berdoe & Co., has disposed of his Westgate-on-Sea business to Mr. A. Boulton through the same agency.

Messrs. P. Harris & Sons (Limited), Edmund Street, Birmingham, have recently added considerably to their already extensive premises. A new tincture-laboratory and a chemical-laboratory, distinct from the pharmaceutical, have been constructed; the newest machinery for drug-grinding and steam stills have been added. The firm have also commenced the manufacture of certain brass and iron apparatus on the premises, formerly carried on outside. An ingenious arrangement for pumping the condensed water by hydraulic power into tanks at the top of the warehouse has been adopted. A room is being fitted up for testing galvanometers and resistances, and there are also workshops for scientific apparatus and for brass and wood electrical apparatus. Alterations have also been effected in the retail department.

Marriage.

GADD—MACKEITH.—On October 28, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Glasgow, by the Rev. D. Campbell Sinton, H. Wippell, elder son of Alderman Henry Gadd, J.P. (of the firm of Evans, Gadd & Co., wholesale druggists, Exeter), to Catherine (Kate) MacGregor, daughter of the late William MacKeith, Esq., surgeon, Sussex.

Deaths.

ALLEN.—The death is announced of Mr. W. Allen, chemist, of the Market Place, Basingstoke, which occurred at the age of 30 from consumption. The deceased was a member of the firm of Allen & Lloyd, garrison chemists, of High Street, Aldershot, which business was established by deceased's father thirty years ago.

BOLTON.—On September 29, at St. John's Road, Dover, Mr. Joseph Bolton, chemist and druggist, 10 King Street. Mr. Bolton was one of the oldest tradesmen of the town, and had carried on a successful business in the borough for many years. He was 80 years of age, and had resided in Dover for forty-nine years.

Bower.—On October 23, Mr. William Bower, pharmaceutical chemist, Tottenham Court Road, London, W. Aged 78.

CURTIS.—On October 24, at Gloucester, Mr. A. A. Curtis, chemist and druggist, Westgate Street.

How.—On October 26, Mr. Randal E. How, chemist, of Cowley Road and St. Clements, Oxford, at the age of 53. The deceased was a member of the Oxford City Council since its reconstitution in 1889, and in consequence of his illness he was about to retire when his term of office expired at the end of October. The funeral on Friday last was attended by the Mayor and Corporation

ROBINSON.—On October 21, Mr. George James Robinson, chemist and druggist, late of Mayfair, London, W. Aged 57.

TOMLINSON.—On October 29 at his residence, Yew Bank, Broughton, Manchester, Mr. Thomas Tomlinson, of the well-known firm of chemists' valuers, in his 74th year.

Trade Reports.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., November 4.

THE week under review has been a rather quiet one in the drug and chemical markets, although there is a fairly drug and chemical markets, although there is a fairly steady undercurrent of trade. Quinine is dearer, and the 25-per-cent. advance in cinchona at to-day's Amsterdam auctions will give further stimulus to this article. Carbolic acid firm. Cream of tartar easier. Sal prunella has been reduced in price. Cinchonidine higher. Cocaine tending upward. Glycerin keeps quiet. A change in sulphonal seems likely. In drugs there have been few alterations. The opiummarket is brisk. Cascara sagrada firm. Balsam Peru scarce and dearer. Essential oils of cloves, cajuput, lemongrass, and citronella are firmer. American peppermint oil steady. In drysalteries, spices, &c., there have been several alterations in price. Shellac is again moving upward, and a large business has been done in turmeric at advancing rates. Gambier lower. Gum olibanum fairly steady. Cocoa-butter easier. Tragacanth is steady. Japan wax quiet. Galls very firm, and tending higher. There has been a fresh advance in black and white pepper, but it has been arrested. Zanzibar cloves have fluctuated. Cochin ginger is easier. Linseed oil is slightly easier. Rape oil steady for crude and firmer for refined. Cotton-seed oil a trifle lower. Cocoanut, palm, and olive oils unchanged for all varieties. Turpentine is again lower. Petroleum flat, at $4\frac{7}{16}d$. to $5\frac{5}{8}d$. per gallon, according to quality. Quicksilver firm and unchanged.

The output of arsenic in England is being gradually reduced as the quantity of tin diminishes. In Cornwall last year (1896) 1,366 tons of arsenious acid, or white oxide of arsenic, were produced, the value of which at the mines was estimated at 14,997l. Devonshire produced, in 1896, 2,250 tons of arsenic, the value being 30.486l. On the whole, therefore, the output has fallen from 4,798 tons, of the value of 52,1981. last year, to 3,616 tons, value 45,483l., this year. On the other hand, the quantity of arsenical pyrites extracted under the Metalliferous Minerals Act and sold for the manufacture of white arsenic has made an extraordinary leap. In 1895 only 2,951 tons of this mineral were sold in the two southern counties, fetching the sum of 2,785l. In 1896 the value of the 8,808 tons of pyrites was no less than 8,007L, an increase in one year's output of 5,2221. With the exception of the three years 1883-85, however, the 1895 production was the smallest on record. Indeed, the outputs have varied enormously in different years. For instance, in 1891 the returns showed that 14,321 tons were extracted, and in 1892 12,564 tons. This was followed by the production of under 2,000 tons in each of the subsequent three years.

Ordinary jalap, the "Purgo macho" of the Mexicans, is widely known as a medicinal substance, and the plant (Ipomea purga, Hayne), with purplish-pink flowers, is met with under cultivation in Europe, in the Nilgiris (Madras), and in Jamaica. Tampico jalap, on the other hand, which has made its appearance in trade of recent years in considerable quantity, is produced by a different plant (Ipomea simulans, Hanbury). It is stated to grow along the mountain ranges of the Sierra Gorda, in the neighbourhood of St. Luis de la Paz, from which town and the adjacent villages the roots are carried to Tampico, and thence shipped abroad. As Tampico jalap was not represented amongst the plants in the Economic Collections at Kew, an effort was made to obtain a few tubers from Mexico. In November last two lots were received in excellent condition from H.M. Consul at Vera Cruz, labelled respectively "Tlacolulam" and "Tonayan," and described as having been obtained from these localities, "in the canton of Jalapa, in the state of Vera Cruz." The Tlacolulam tubers were distributed to

the botanical departments at Jamaica and the Nilgiris, and to various botanic gardens in the British Isles. The Tonayan tubers (a small lot) were distributed to Jamaica and the Nilgiris only. It was at once noticed that both these tubers were not obtained from the locality where Tampico jalap is collected, and now there is little doubt that they are ordinary jalap (*Ipomea purga*). Anothereffort is being made to obtain the tubers of the true Tampiso-jalap.

A parcel of two barrels of galangal-root per Orinoco from Grenada, West Indies, which were offered at last week's drug-West Indian auctions and bought in without mention of Galangai. price, has attracted some attention in consequence of the different appearance of the root from that usually seen at the drug-sales. The pieces of root are of irregular sizes and shapes, and have apparently been peeled when fresh. There are, however, traces of a light reddish epidermis, which prove them to belong to the Greater or Java Galangal (Alpinia Galanga), and not to the ordinary Galangal, which is furnished by Alpinia officinarum, and comes from China. The Greater Galangal has a feebler odour and taste, and the epidermis is of a much lighterbrown colour.

Our Amsterdam correspondent telegraphs on Thursday afternoon:—During the last days of October several small parcels of Java cinchona changed handsprivately at very full prices, and the tendency of the market generally was extremely strong. At to-day's public sales 6,128 packages of Java cinchona (of which the factory-cinchona contained on an average the equivalent of 5.47 per cent. of sulphate of quinine) were offered. Of this quantity 4,713 packages sold at an advance of 25 per cent, the average unit of 790c. (=1½d. per lb.) against 6 27c. (=1½d. per lb.) paid at the October auctions. The total quantity of quinine represented by the manufacturing bark in auction was 28,534 kilos., of which 22,282 kilos. found buyers. The American and English manufacturers bought 3,055 kilos.; Amsterdam, 5,619 kilos.; Brunswick, 2,329 kilos.; Mannheim and Amsterdam, 5,232 kilos.; Frankfort o.M. and Stuttgart, 1,955 kilos.; various other buyers, 4,092 kilos. The general tone throughout the auctions was extremely animated, and the prices realised for manufacturing barks ranged from 14c. to 70½c. (=2½d. to 1s. 0½d. per lb.), and for Druggists' barks from 22c. to 101c. (=4d. to 1s. 6d. per lb.).

Our Hamburg correspondent telegraphs on Thursday even-Hamburg ing that Oil of citronella is firm. Quillaia-bark Telegram. 100 kilos.

Our New York correspondent cables on Thursday evening that Mandrakc-root (Podophyllin) offers at $5\frac{3}{4}c$. per lb_{\cdot} ; New York sassafras $7\frac{3}{4}c$.; Culvers-root at from 9c. to Gablegram. 12c. per lb.; Serpentaria, 24c.; Blood, $6\frac{1}{2}c$.; Blackhaw-bark of the finest quality offers at $6\frac{3}{4}c$.; Cherry-bark, $5\frac{1}{4}d$. to $5\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb. All the foregoing are in a strong position. $Golden\text{-}seal\ root$ is easier, and can be had at 49c. per lb. HGH oil of peppermint is dull and unchanged.

Our Smyrna correspondent telegraphs on Thursday afterSmyrna
Opium
Telegram.

noon that the sales for the week amount to
30 cases, at 7s. 3d. for Current, and 7s. 6d. perlb. f.o.b. Smyrna for Karahissar.

ACID (CARBOLIC) has been in more demand lately and is firmer, especially for *Crystals*, which are now quoted at $7\frac{1}{4}d$. to $7\frac{1}{2}d$. for 39° to 40° C., and $6\frac{3}{4}d$. for 34° to 35° C. *Crude carbolic*, 75 per cent., 2s. 7d. to 2s. 8d. per gallon; 60 per cent., 2s. to 2s. 1d. per gallon. *Cresylic*, 95 per cent., 1s. to 1s. 1d. per gallon.

ALKANET.—Good to prime picked root offers at 29s. 6d. to 36s. 6d.; natural, at 24s. to 24s. 6d. per cwt.

ANGELICA.—Root, according to quality, from 24s. to 31s. 6d.; seed, 42s. 6d. to 43s. 6d. per cwt.

ASAFGETIDA.—Quiet and unchanged. The prices asked run from 45s. to 75s. per cwt. according to quality. The stock in the warehouses has now been reduced to 438 packages.

BALSAM OF PERU.—Dearer. There appears to be very little available on the spot, and for genuine balsam of direct import 8s. 6d. per lb. is asked.

BALSAM TOLU.—One holder quotes 2s. 9d. for fair old-fashioned quality, and reports sales at the price. For fine "genuine" he asks 3s. 6d.: from another quarter, however, we get the quotation of 3s. 4d. per lb. for old hard, and 2s. 4d. for "genuine" but soft.

CALUMBA.—Scarce and wanted. Good vellow sorts are held at the recent auction prices of 40s. to 45s. per cwt.

CANTHABIDES.—Chinese flies scarce, at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. for good quality. Russian are held at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d. per lb. for good quality.

CARDAMOMS.—A mail report from Colombo states that a brisk business continues to be done for the Bombay and Calcutta markets, and the tendency is towards a steady increase in prices. Several parcels of Mysore changed hands from 2·15r. to 2·60r. per lb., and of Malabar from 1·95r. to 2·10r. per lb. A small parcel of seeds has fetched 2·12r. per lb We do not hear of any business of importance in London since the last auctions. A fair quantity will be offered next week. There have been several small arrivals.

CHAMOMILES are reported rather dearer from Belgium, but in London there is but little demand. Best quality is quoted at from 34s. up to 36s. 6d. per cwt.

CINCHONA.—The following figures relate to the exports of cinchona-bark from Java during the month of October, and the ten-monthly periods from January 1 to October 31 of the past five years:—

1895 1891 1893 1897 1896 Half-Half-Half-Half-Halfkilos. kilos. kilos. kilos. kilos. 349,000 735,000 862,000 1,100,000 952,000 October Jan. 1-Oct. 31 6,490,000 8,280,000 6,929,700 7,577,000 6,225,000 The exports from Ceylon from January 1 to October 5 have been :-

1897 1896 1895 1894 1bs. ... 599,346 881,743 803,834 2,219,688

The Amsterdam public sales of cinchona have been fixed as follows:—January 20, February 24, March 31, May 5, June 9, July 14, August 25, September 29, November 3, and December 8.

UINCHONIDIN.—Howard's sulphate of cinchonidin, in tins, has been advanced to 9d.; in vials, to 10d. per oz.; pure cinchonidin, to 1s. 1d. per oz. Ditto, Citrate of iron and cinchonidin, in vials, to $5\frac{1}{2}d$.; in bulk, to $4\frac{1}{2}d$. per oz. Whiffen's cinchonidin is quoted at $8\frac{1}{2}d$. to 9d. per oz. German offers at $8\frac{1}{2}d$. per oz.

COCAINE.—We understand that the bulk of the crude cocaine available on the London market has been bought up quietly within the past few days, and that the bulk of that on the Hamburg market has also been cleared. Until quite recently some of the German manufacturers were cutting the price, but to-day most of them have withdrawn their low quotations, and they generally stand out for 8s. 6d. per oz. for Hydrochlorate, although we understand that Schering's brand may still be had at 8s. 4d. per oz. usual terms, after having been sold at 8s. a few days ago.

COCOA-BUTTER.—At the monthly auctions on Tuesday 250 2-owt. cases of Cadbury's cocoa sold at from 12d. down to $11\frac{3}{4}d$. per lb., a decline of $\frac{3}{4}d$. per lb. on the October sales. Several lots of Taylor's and Thorne's cocoa-butter were bought in at the auctions, but have since been partly disposed of at $11\frac{3}{4}d$. per lb. At the Amsterdam auctions on Tuesday 100 tons of $Van\ Houten's$ cocoa-butter were offered, of which about $33\frac{1}{2}$ tons sold at 57c. per half-kilo.; $3\frac{1}{2}$ tons of other brands sold at from 48c. to 51c. per half-kilo.

COLOGYNTH.—Good pale *Turkish* apple is still held for 1s. 2d. per lb. on the spot. There is practically no demand.

CREAM OF TARTAR is about 1s. easier, best white French crystals being now obtainable on the spot at 74s. 6d. to 75s. per cwt. Powder is also slightly lower at 77s. to 78s. per cwt. The quotation for Crystals is 71s. f.o.b., Bordeaux.

GALLS.—Bassorah galls remain extremely firm, with sales of blues at from 52s. 6d. to 55s. per cwt. Greens and whites steady, with small sales at the quotations. Chinese firm, with sales on the spot at 62s. 6d.; while for December-February shipment the quotation is 61s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. terms.

GENTIAN.—Declining. Good French root may now be had at 25s. per cwt. on the spot, and for shipment at 22s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. terms.

GUINEA GRAINS.—Scarce and dearer, 35s. per cwt. being asked for good quality.

GUM ACACIA.—The recent arrivals of so-called "insoluble" Persian gum are selling readily at full prices, 19s. to 20s. per cwt. for fair sorts. Reddish to fine picked is still quoted at 20s. to 26s., fair to fine sorts at 16s. to 21s.; siftings at from 12s. to 18s. per cwt. Within the last few days a fair quantity of Ghatti gum has been sold at 35s. to 40s. per cwt. for good pale, and from 20s. to 21s. for ordinary dark quality. Good Aden sorts offer at 47s. 6d. per cwt. Soudan sorts quiet at 65s. to 85s. per cwt. Kurachee gums scarce on the spot.

HONEY.—A quiet market. Chilian honey is tending rather easier, offering at from 28s. per cwt. for fair yellow, up to 32s. 6d. per cwt. for fine pale. A parcel of Peruvian honey has recently changed hands at Liverpool at 21s. 6d. per cwt.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—It is suggested that the present time is a good one for laying in stock, especially for firms who dotheir own grinding, as prices are usually at their lowest at this time of the year. The quotations run from 72s. 6d. upto 140s. per cwt. c i.f. terms, for open to finest closed flowers. A fair business is being done in London. The stock in Trieste at the end of September was $329\frac{1}{2}$ tons.

JALAP.—Good Vera Cruz quality is held in London at 7d. per lb. From New York it is reported that there have been no arrivals of jalap at that port lately, and that there were only 50 bales in first hand. The market, however, remains dull, at 9½c. to 10c. per lb. for fair quality.

Kola-nuts.—At auction on Wednesday 3 cases, together about 345 lbs., of fair bright $West\ Indian\ (Grenada)\ sold$ steadily at 6d. to 7d. per lb.

LIQUORICE.—Persian root is in rather small supply and firmly held. Ordinary decorticated is quoted at 22s. 6d. per cwt.; fine bold Russian decorticated root 55s. per cwt.

MASTICH.—The market, we understand, has practically been cleared of all desirable parcels on the basis of 1s. 7d. per lb. for good pale drop.

MENTHOL.—No business is reported this week. On the spot the article is steady, at 7s. 3d. per lb. for good pale crystals. For shipment the quotations are much above the London parity, 8s. per lb., c.i.f., being generally asked.

Nux Vomica—Dearer, with sales of fine *Cochin* seed at 9s. per lb., c.i.f. terms.

OIL (CASTOR).—East Indian oil fairly steady. French medicinal oil in cases offers at 37s, 6d., and in barrels at 35s. 6d. on the spot. First pressings at 28s. 6d., and second ditto at 27s. 6d. per cwt., f.o.b.

OIL (COD-LIVER).—A steady trade has been done this week, the sales amounting to a few hundred barrels fine non-congealing *Norwegian* on the spot, at from 70s. to 75s. perbarrel. *Holmboc's* brand has been sold, according to quality, at from 65s. to 67s. per barrel, c.i.f. terms.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Cassia oil: At the end of last week a parcel of ordinary oil (60 per cent.) changed hands at 5s. 3d. per lb., which shows a pretty steady market. Since then business has been reported in 70 to 75 per cent. oil at 5s. per lb., c.i.f. terms, for near at hand. On the spot 80 to 85-per cent. might be had at 6s 1d., perhaps at 5s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$., per lb. Star-anise oil is very flat. It is said that on the spot 7s. 9d.

per lb. has been paid for good quality. The quotation for shipment November-December is 7s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f. There has been a strong advance in Lemongrass oil, some 200 or 300 cases having changed hands at $3\frac{1}{4}d$. to $3\frac{3}{6}d$. per oz. on the spot. It is even said to-day that $3\frac{1}{2}d$. per oz. has been paid, and there is every prospect that the article will advance to 4d. per oz. For arrival there are practically no quotations. Citronella oil is also much dearer. The last business done on the spot was at 1s. $4\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb. in tins, and for arrival sales are reported at 1s. 4d. per lb. c.i.f. November-January, and 1s. $3\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb. c.i.f. November-April shipment. Cajuput oil dearer, at 3s. 9d. per bottle for good quality. American perpermint oil rather firmer. HGH, which could recently be had at 5s. 9d., is not offering now below 6s. per lb. The English distillers have further advanced their prices of Oil of eloves, which are now 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d. per lb. for the best, and 2s. to 2s. 2d. per lb. for second quality. Oil of pimento has also been raised in price, English being now quoted at 10s. to 11s., foreign at 6s. per lb. Oil of orris, on the other hand, has been reduced in sympathy with the crude article; from 26s. up to 32s. per oz. is quoted for English-drawn, according to holder.

OIL (OLIVE).—Dearer, and tending upwards still. Good to fine Italian eating oil is quoted at from 5s. to 5s. 6d. per gallon. So far as other qualities are concerned, the market remains firm, but unchanged. The stocks are small and the tendency is in favour of a slight advance during the winter months.

OPIUM.—Firmly held, with a brisk business so far as the turnover in *Turkish* grades is concerned. In soft-shipping opium there has been a good demand; good to fine qualities are quoted at 11s. to 11s. 6d. per lb., ordinary to medium ditto at 8s. 6d. to 10s. per lb. Fine druggists' opium has been sold at 8s. 6d., second quality offers at 8s. to 8s. 3d. per lb. There has been a fair amount of business in fine *Persian* opium at 10s. per lb., but common to good grades (nominally worth from 9s. to 9s. 9d. per lb.) are neglected.

ORRIS ROOT.—The 140 packages imported per *Clymene* last week, came from Leghorn, not from Palermo as mentioned.

QUILLAIA-BARK.—The advance still continues. There have been few arrivals lately, and on the spot as much as 28s, 6d. per cwt. has been paid.

QUININE.—On Tuesday, when the result of the cinchonashipments from Java for October became known, the quininemarket assumed a considerably firmer tone, and about 70,000 oz. second-hand German bulk were sold at from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 2\frac{1}{4}d. per oz. On the following day 1s. 2d. per oz. was paid for about 10,000 oz. B & S, or Brunswick quinine. The Brunswick agents on Wednesday offered quinine of recent manufacture at 1s. 3d. per oz., either on the spot or for forward delivery, and sales of about 10,000 oz. were reported for either position. To-day, however, there are no further offers for forward delivery by any of the agents, and yesterday's quotation is generally looked upon as only an attempt to influence the course of the Amsterdam auctions. Further sales of 10,000 oz. Brunswick quinine (spot) are reported to-day at 1s. 3d. per oz.: and a small parcel has been done in second-hand at 1s. 2\frac{3}{4}d. per oz. The B \hat{S} agents have no price, Zimmer quotes nominally 1s. 3d., Whiffen 1s. 5d. for vials and 1s. 3d. per oz. for bulk. Market strong.

RHUBARB.—A small trade is reported to have been done at steady prices since last auctions. *Shensi* root is scarce, and wanted in fine quality. Good bold flat *Canton*, of good fracture has been sold, it is said, at 1s. 7d. per lb. Good bright flat *High-dried* at 1s., and round rough ditto at $8\frac{3}{4}d$. to 9d. per lb.

SAFFRON.—The new-crop *Spanish* saffron has now come on to the market, and prices are considerably lower, fine to finest *Valencia* offering, according to holders, at from 37s. to 40s. per lb.; second quality at 34s. to 35s. per lb. It is said that prices are not likely to fall below these rates, but this is a statement usually made at the beginning of the season.

SAL PRUNELLA.—This article has just been reduced in price by some of the makers, who now quote balls at 40s., small ditto at 70s., and cake at 32s. 6d. per cwt. This decline is due to competition among the English manufacturers.

SCAMMONY.—Root quiet at 30s. per cwt. Turkish scammony resin is still pressing heavily upon the market and difficult to sell, although lower prices would be accepted. Quotations remain nominal: best virgin 28s. to 30s., seconds, 18s. to 25s., Skillipe from 5s. to 11s. per lb. English (B.P.) resin 6s. 9d. to 7s. per lb.

SENNA.—We have not heard of any further business in Alexandrian leaf since the "slaughtering" of the parcel at last week's auctions. All varieties remain plentiful, and only very low quotations would lead to business. Of Tinnevelly leaves several small second-hand parcels have changed hands at full to higher prices since the auctions. The crop reports are extremely unfavourable, and up to $7\frac{1}{2}d$, per lb. has been paid for good medium to bold green leaf.

SHELLAC .- Last week the market closed quietly, with small sales of fair TN Orange lac on the spot, at 62s. to 63s. per cwt., cash terms. During the present week there has been a marked improvement in the position of the article on the spot, as well as for shipment. At Tuesday's auctions there was a steady demand for the fairly large supply of 1,060 cases offered, and 750 sold at an advance of 1s. per cwt. on second *Orange* compared with the last auctions. The bulk of the sales was without reserve, and the following prices were realised: - Second Orange, common flat weak, of old import, 58s. to 60s.; medium, reddish block to fair free 58s. to 60s.; fair bright red to reddish, 61s. to 65s.; fine pale G in double triangle, 80s. to 81s. per cwt.; fine native Bombay button sold at 67s. to 80s., according to quality; glassy thirds and fourths at from 58s. down to 33s. per cwt. The spot quotation for TN Orange closed at 63s., and for AC Garnet, nominally at 64s. per cwt. Since the auctions a fairly large business has been done in TN Orange for March delivery, at 67s. to 67s. 6d. per cwt., November–January at 62s. 6d. to 63s. Sales have also been made for shipment October-December at 62s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

SPERMACETI.—The first-hand stock of *Chilian* refined spermaceti in Liverpool has recently been cleared at from 1s. 1d. to 1s. $1\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb.; and higher rates are now insisted upon.

SPICES.—Pimento is flat and lower. At auction 607 bags were bought in, excepting 80 which sold without reserve at slightly lower rates, nominally $3\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb. for coarse medium. Pepper has shown a firm market for all varieties, chiefly on account of the statistics cabled from the East, showing much smaller shipments during the month of October. At auction fairly large supplies of black pepper were bought in, excepting one lot of Singapore, which sold at $3\frac{3}{4}d$., and 31 bags of small Lampong, which realised $3\frac{1}{8}d$. per lb. There were no white Singapore pepper offered at auction. Of 328 bags Siam, 25 sold at $6\frac{1}{2}d$. for fair and $9\frac{1}{8}d$. to $9\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb. for superior washed quality. Penang pepper has been sold up to $5\frac{13}{16}d$. per lb. on the spot. At the close the market is again rather easier. Chillies quiet. Fair red Zanzibar were bought in at 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt.; 20 cases fine bright red Japan were partly sold at 55s. per cwt. Maee is quiet, and Nutmegs are flat and easier to sell. Cassia lignea quiet, with sales of old import at 47s. per cwt. at auction. Ginger of all kinds is dull of sale. Several parcels of Jamaica were bought in at nominal prices. Twenty bags limed Japan realised 14s. per cwt. at auction. Of Cochin, 550 packages sold at auction, mostly without reserve, at easier rates. Fair, small partly limed, native cut, 29s. to 32s.; ordinary small brown rough, 27s. 6d. to 28s. 6d.; common wormy small washed rough, 20s. per cwt. Zanzibar cloves have fluctuated considerably, and close firmer, privately, with a strong demand, January-March delivery up to $2\frac{1}{6}d$. per lb., and steamer shipment same months at $2\frac{1}{10}d$. per lb., c.i.f. terms. At auction 300 bales fair Zanzibar sold at $2\frac{3}{4}d$., and 7 cases good picked Penang at $7\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb.

St. Ignatius' Beans.—The supply seems to be entirely in second hand, and is held for 6d. to 7d. per lb.

SUGAR OF MILK.—Steady, best white American 65s.: second quality 55s. per cwt.

SULPHONAL.—For some time there has been a severe competition going on in this article among German manu-

facturers. The older firms ultimately, in order to get rid of the competition of an inconvenient new-comer, reduced their price to what they say is a non-paying basis, but that at those figures sulphonal has lately been sold. There is, however, a prospect that there will shortly be a change in the condition of the market, though nothing definite has yet transpired.

TRAGACANTH.—Quiet, but firmly held. Fine first *Persian*, 131. to 131. 10s.; seconds, 111. 10s. to 121. 10s.; thirds from 101. 10s. to 111. per cwt.

TURMERIC has been in strong demand lately at higher prices. A large business has been done in *Bengal* at up to 12s. per cwt. Good *Madras* finger has sold in small lots at 19s. 6d.; and split *Cochin* bulbs at 8s. 6d. per cwt.

Vanilla.—The U.S.A. Government have sanctioned (says an American report) the application of a duty of $\frac{1}{2}c$. per 1b. plus 10 per cent. ad. val. on vanilla beans. This tax has already been levied upon certain parcels of Bourbon vanilla, and the importers have paid it under protest. The legality of the duty is to be challenged in the law courts, but it is thought that the decision of the Government will be upheld. The holders of Mexican beans remain extremely firm, and refuse to sell except at very high prices. Twelve cases of Mexican vanilla have been shipped direct to Paris. In London a small business has been done at full prices since the last auctions. Short beans especially are very dear, and realise fancy prices in some instances. Long beans neglected. A large quantity (over 800 tins, it is said) will be offered for auction next week. A wholesale dealer in this article questions the accuracy of the figures which we published recently from a source describing itself as "authentic," so far as these figures relate to the Bourbon crop. He says that that crop has been 125,000, and not 100,000 kilos. this year, and that in 1896 it was not 98,000, but 90 000 kilos.

WAX (JAPAN).—Quiet, at 40s. per cwt. for good pale squares on the spot. For arrival October-December steamer, the quotations remain at 37s. 6d. c.i.f. terms.

Heavy Chemicals.

Business in the heavy-chemical market is now rather quieter, exports are slackening off a little as is usual at this time of the year, whilst home demand is scarcely what it should be. The main feature of interest to be noted is the firmer tone taken by Sulphate of ammonia, owing to the brisker demand and condition of supply. Prices have advanced and look likely to go still higher. Present quotations are: Beckton terms, prompt, 81.7s. 6d. Beckton, January-June, 8l. 12s. 6d.; Leith and Hull, 8l. 6s. 3d.; London, 8l. 7s. 6d. Fair business has been done for forward delivery. Oc. 18. Od. Fair business has been done for forward derivery. Carbolic acids are fairly steady, but business is not very brisk. Crude, 75-per-cent., 2s. 4d.; 60-per-cent., 1s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. Crystals, 39-40°C., 7d. to $7\frac{1}{8}d$.; 34-35°C., $6\frac{1}{3}d$. to $6\frac{3}{4}d$. Naphthas are unchanged; crude, 30-per-cent., 1s. to 1s. 1d. Solvent naphtha, 95-per-cent., 1s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. to 2s.; 90-per-cent., 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. Solvent an ad. white colourless 2s. 10d. 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. Solvent wood, white colourless, 2s. 10d. Miscible naphtha, 4s. per gallon. Aniline oil and salt are 7d. and $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. respectively. Tolucl is in better demand at 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d. Creasute also meets with better inquiry and stands at 2d. to $2\frac{1}{8}$ d; liquid $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. Benzols are fairly firm. Sulphate of copper quietly steady. American brown acetate of lime has again advanced, owing to a further rise in freights, present figure is about 51. 15s., e.i.f. Very little Welsh is offering. Ammonia alkali is very firm. Caustic soda and Bleaching-powder maintain their prices for prompt delivery, but for next year figures are lower. Yellow prussiate of potash firm. Chlorate of potash easier, 3\frac{3}{4}d. Chlorate of soda, 41d. Sulphocyanides weak and quiet. Alum and Sulphate of alumina are disappointing, demand being low for the time of the year. Linseed and Cottonseed cakes are firm at last week's quotations and are in somewhat heavier demand.

The Liverpool Drug-market.

Our Liverpool correspondent, writing on November 3, reports that the downward movement in *Castor oil* has been arrested to some extent, and the price of good seconds may be considered $3\frac{5}{2}d$. per lb., at which some sales are reported, though holders are showing more disposition to meet buyers. First-pressure *French* is held for $3\frac{15}{3}d$. per lb. to $3\frac{1}{2}d$., but

there is no animation in the oil for the time being. For the small stocks of second pressure on hand $3\frac{1}{4}d$, would be taken. Fenugreek seeds are arriving, and sales have been made at 9s. 9d. to 10s.; the latter price is asked by holders of Egyptian. Russian anise is held for 20s. cwt. for fine quality, but sales are said to have taken place at a shade less than this figure. Arsenic is easier at about 22l. per ton net. In Kola nuts, sales of six baskets of W. African are recorded at $4\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb., while good dry are realising $3\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb. Canary seed, Turkish, is steady at the late figures of 26s. 6d. to 27s. per quarter; the market seems tending in the favour of sellers. All Honeys are experiencing a better demand, especially the lower grades of *Chilian*, and Piles II. and III. are quite 1s. dearer for the week, and holders talk of even yet better figures. Californian is also in good demand particularly the pale liquid quality, which is in limited supply for the moment. African ginger is decidedly stronger, a good many bales having changed hands at 18s. ewt. Guinea grains are steady at 32s. 6d. to 35s. cwt. Chilian spermaeeti has passed into fewer hands, and though low prices were lately mentioned the holders are now very firm at 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 4d. Beesraw continues to attract little attention, though small sales of Gambia are reported at 61. 2s. 6d. cwt., while Chilian is not quotably changed in value. For Gum acacia, Soudan sorts, buyers have paid 65s. to 67s. 6d. for moderate quantities, and there is still a little obtainable at this price, but the supply is only small. Medium qualities move off slowly without change in prices, but there is rather more inquiry for low-priced gums, of which there is a very scanty supply. An arrival of Bolivian cova leaves of fair to dark quality were offered at auction, and realised 6½d. for 90 bales and 6¼d. for 20 bales. Cream of tartar is steady at 80s. to 82s. cwt.

The Hamburg Drug-market.

Our Hamburg correspondent writes on November 2:-Our drug-market is exceptionally quiet this week, and shows very few changes in prices. Antimony is unchanged, at 39m. per 100 kilos. Agar-agar is quoted, on the spot, at 275m.; forward delivery at 258m. per 100 kilos. Balsam Peru is a little firmer, at 16m. per kilo. Balsam tolu is quiet and lower, at 4m. per kilo. Borax (refined) remains depressed, at 30½m. per 100 kilos. Citrie aeid is easier, at 248m. per 100 kilos. Chlorate of potash unchanged, at 70m. per 100 kilos. Cantharides is steady, good flies offering at 325m. to 340m. per 100 kilos. Coriander-sced lower, Mogador now offering at 14½m. per 100 kilos. Maltese eumin-seed unchanged, at 38m. to 40m. per 100 kilos. Russian anise-seed is easier, and new seed can be had at 40½m. per 100 kilos. Ergot of rye still keeps firm, good sound quality being held for 170m. per 100 kilos.; inferior quality is quoted 150m. per 100 kilos. Honeys remain firm, with a fair demand for Chilian, Piles II. and III. Menthol is firm; spot delivery offers at $15\frac{1}{2}$ m. per kilo. Nux vomica quiet, at 14m. Kolanuts are quoted at 55m. to 65m. per 100 kilos., with but little Galangal is unchanged, at 41m. Gentian-root business. steady, at 51m. per 100 kilos. Cod-liver oil is still without business, and very flat; non-congealing oil offers at 68m. to 70m. per barrel. Castor oil is steady, first pressing for spot delivery being quoted at 63m., forward delivery 61m. to 60m. per 100 kilos. Star-anise oil is firm, at 174m. per kilo. Russian anise-oil also very firm, at $16\frac{1}{2}$ m. per kilo. Russian anise-oil also very firm, at $16\frac{1}{2}$ m. per kilo. Peppermint oil is quiet, HGH at $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. per lb., Japan oil at $6\frac{3}{4}$ m, and 7m. per kilo. Citronella oil is very scarce and firm, at 2.90m. to 2.95m. Clove oil and Cassia oil are both steady. Opium is steady, at 18m. per kilo. Quillaia for spot delivery is very scarce and little or none offening. livery is very scarce, and little or none offering. Star-anise is quiet. at 180m. per 100 kilos. Camphor (refined) shows no business, to-day's quotation being 265m. per 100 kilos. Cocaine (pure) shows an upward tendency; factories are not willing to sell at the previous low prices. Quinine is unchanged, at 39m. per kilo.

The Bergen Cod-liver Oil Market.

Our Bergen correspondent writes on October 30 that a quieter tone prevails on their market, and that no further rise in price is to be expected. The quotation for best noncongealing *Lofoten* oil remains at 67s. per barrel, f.o.b. terms. The exports from Bergen up to date are 8,694 barrels, against 4,779 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.



In writing letters for publication, correspondents should adopt a concise, but not abbreviated, style. They are requested to write on one side of the paper only. Letters, with or without a nom-de-plume must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer. Queries should be written on separate pieces of

paper, and the regulations printed under the sections to which they apply should be strictly observed.

The P.A.T.A. Controversy.

SIR,-The victorious pæan in which Mr. Jones indulged in your last issue is, in reality, the death-dirge of the P.A.T.A. That Association, as it has been known and understood from its inception up to last Saturday, has ceased to exist. What was its special characteristic? In what did it differ from anything that preceded it? Was not its distinguishing feature, its claim for support, and the very reason for its existence, based upon a scheme for getting control of a number of articles, and cutting off supplies of all of them from anybody who persisted in selling any one of them below certain minimum prices? Surely every one of your readers will answer "Yes." I think it desirable, however, to bring forward Mr. Jones himself to prove that he has made a "triumphant retreat." Permit me to place in juxtaposition with a quotation from Mr. Jones's last letter a notice which has been appended to every list of "protected" articles which has appeared in the official organ of the P.A.T.A., from the first list, in July, 1896, to the last, in October, 1897:-

Notice which has always been appended to the lists of "protected" articles in the official organ of the P.A.T.A. up to October 15, 1897.

"RT The proprietors of the above articles will not permit them to be supplied to firms who retail any one of them below the above minimum prices. The name of any firm selling any of the above articles below the said prices will be sent to the manufacturers and to every wholesale buyer, and supplies of the whole list would be witheld."

Extract from Mr. Jones's letter to the "C. & D." of October 30, 1897.

"Mr. Day tells us he is prepared to enter into arrangements with the P.A.T.A. proprietors... I will now tell him that one of the ways by which the P.A.T.A. secures its objects is by arranging for these very individual agreements; indeed, for months past firms, on what Mr. Day calls our 'black-list,' have been freely supplied by our various proprietors, provided in each case they give an individual agreement to the particular proprietors to maintain P.A.T.A. prices, precisely as in the case of Messrs. Day and Munyon's remedies."

"Firms on our 'black-list' freely supplied by our various proprietors." This will surely prove a knock-down blow for many of the supporters of the P.A.T.A., who fondly believed that these "black-list" people were inexorably doomed to suffer the pangs of insatiable craving for the good things of the P.A.T.A., not one of which they could ever hope to obtain; and now to discover that the guardians of this precious treasure and the very high priest of their idolatry have been secretly doling out to these outcasts, these pariahs, the choice morsels which they have been taught to regard as the special and privileged possession of the faithful! "For months past" Mr. Jones has been printing at the foot of his list of protected" articles a notice that supplies of all these articles are to be cut off from any trader who sells any one of them below the minimum prices, and he has been sending out lists of those from whom such articles are to be rigorously withheld. Notwithstanding all this, he has, at the same time, not only been winking at, but actually encouraging the direct supply of these very articles to the very people who, his official notice and his official list declare, must on no account be supplied with any one of them. The complete abandonment of the foundation principle of the P.A.T.A., whilst keeping up the pretence of maintaining it, is so astounding, that I feel bound to ask, can the Mr. Jones of the Record and the Mr. Jones of the C. & D. be one and the

same person? If this be so, and if Mr. Jones's letter of last Saturday be an authoritative declaration of the position now taken up by the P.A.T.A., then the "triumphant retreat" is nothing less than a complete and irretrievable defeat! The old P.A.T.A. had, it must be admitted, a clear well-defined and somewhat novel basis of operations, but what basis has the new P.A.T.A.? True, it can attempt to arrange private and individual agreements between retailers and manufacturers, but such agreements were made, and successfully carried out, for years before the P.A.T.A. had any existence; witness those of Messrs. Ellimans, Sons & Co., Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., Vinolia and a host of others. What I have claimed from the first is that manufacturers and retailers should have the right to make such agreements without the intervention of the P.A.T.A., and I still claim that right and shall exercise it, whether I am dealing with those who have put their articles upon the P.A.T.A. list or not. But has Mr. Jones really been so favourable to supplying freely the firms on his black-list who were willing to sign individual agreements? Has he, during all these months, made special journeys and had special interviews with manufacturers for the purpose of persuading them to enter into these private agreements? Or has he used such opportunities to cppose them "tooth and nail"? Mr. Jones reminds me of a man whose horse has run away with him and pitched him into a pond, and who crawls out declaring, with a sickly smile, that that was precisely what he was trying to make his horse do! Mr. Jones's P.A.T.A. has run away with him, and the frisky young steed has thrown him, but he finds it all very laughable, and, in fact, just what he intended to do for the general amusement. Mr. Jones took a great deal of trouble to ascertain how many of the numerous voluntary offers to supply us upon individual agreements we had accepted. Having come to the conclusion that, in spite of the "dreadful extremities" to which he would have your readers believe that we are reduced, we have not eagerly grasped at all we could get, but have only accepted one of them, he proceeds to boast of the fact that "one of the ways by which the P.A.T.A. secures its objects" has met with very scant success in our case. The way in which he handles this two-edged sword is certainly very amusing.

The other points in Mr. Jones's letter are of minor importance; the abandonment of the main plank in his platform, from whatever cause, is the matter of chief interest. I could readily reply to every other point he raises, but I feel that I have already trespassed too much upon your space, and I crave permission to refer to only two of them.

Mr. Jones challenges me to deny, "truthfully," that we have in some cases paid minimum prices for P.A.T.A. articles. No, Sir, I do not deny it. I feel both amused and delighted to find that our object in buying a few articles from various chemists has been admirably attained. We purchased them for the express purpose of selling them to Mr. Jones's "army" of spies and informers, and purposely abstained from removing the stamps and labels of the chemists from whom they were purchased. I am gratified to find that some of them have come into the hands of the person for whom they were intended. If Mr. Jones draws false conclusions from the purchases of his emissaries, he has only himself to blame, and he must excuse my enjoying the humour of the situation. I may tell him, however, that out of the thousands of pounds' worth of P.A.T.A. articles which we have purchased since we were put on his "blacklist" (a large part of which is still in hand), not more than 10% worth altogether has been purchased at minimum prices, and those only for the purpose indicated above. No doubt Mr. Jones will sneer at these figures without knowing anything about them, as is his wont, and if it were possible to pin Mr. Jones to anything, I would throw out a challenge as regards the quantities at present in stock, which are ascertainable, and which would convince him that we are by no means driven to the "dreadful extremities" which he talks about. Mr. Jones, however, always fights shy of anything that is calculated to demonstrate indisputably the shallowness of his random statements and the baseless character of his deductions and suggestions.

The only other point in his letter that I wish to mention (though it is really almost too ridiculous to notice) is Mr. Jones's statement that "few of our undersold P.A.T.A. articles reach our ordinary customers." What does he mean?—that the 60,000 or 70,000 customers who enter our shops

every week need but very few P.A.T.A. articles; or that, in spite of their patronising a "cutter" for all they require in our line besides, their love of high prices is so great that they leave our shops and seek their P.A.T.A. articles elsewhere, because our prices for them are too low? The statement is both false and absurd.

The P.A.T.A., Mr. Jones tells us, has hardly commenced yet; it has, nevertheless, already ceded its strongest fort to the enemy. I can only hope that, if it continues the fight, it will continue to "advance" in the same direction as it has done hitherto. With many thanks for your courtesy and ampartiality,

I am, Sir, yours truly,

WILLIAM DAY.

The Profit on Beecham's Pills.

SIR,-I much regret that Mr. Beecham seems to think I have in any way questioned his bona fides. I have certainly not done so, nor do I suggest that in anything he has done or written in connection with his mutual agreements he has acted otherwise than in good faith. I stated that his letters were misleading, but did not say Mr. Beecham intended them to be so. That they were misleading is beyond all doubt. The trade understood from Mr. Beecham's letters that both at Southampton and Dundee the retailers (a term which certainly included the chemists) had mutually agreed as to the selling-prices of Beecham's pills. The letter from the manager of the Charles A. Vogeler Company, which appeared in your last issue, shows that that gentleman has so read Mr. Beecham's letter, for he says, "We notice particulars of Mr. Thomas Beecham's successful efforts to bring the patentmedicine trade in Southampton to agree as to what prices shall prevail in that town for Beecham's pills." I have shown that the great majority of the patent-medicine vendors in the towns referred to were not so much as consulted, and that they are thoroughly dissatisfied with the step taken. Mr. Beecham himself has since admitted that it was only "the cutters" who were consulted, and in referring to a similar arrangement Mr. Beecham now writes :-'I have quietly arranged a mutual agreement among all the cutters of Woolwich." There is now no misconception, and I can assure Mr. Beecham that to the vast majority of the trade it is of no concern what action he takes, in conjunction with the cutters, in discussing and arranging with them as to whether they should make a gross profit of nothing, or whether that gross profit should be $5, 7\frac{1}{2}$, or 10 per cent. The trade want "living profits," and will be satisfied with nothing dess. Mr. Beecham contends these vary according to the views of the individual, and says, "One chemist who rules the prices of a Midland town, writes, 'I am quite satisfied with the profit I make on your pills; my prices are $7\frac{1}{2}d$., $10\frac{1}{2}d$., and 2s. 3d." I regret that "a Midland town" is not a sufficient postal address to enable me to send postcards to the "ruled" ones in order to learn whether they are quite satisfied. I must remind your readers that eighteen out of twenty chemists in Dundee say they are not satisfied with the prices Mr. Beecham and the cutters have agreed upon for that town, though these prices were a trifle higher than those quoted by "the ruler" of the Midland town.

What manner of right has any one trader to rule the prices of a town? It is against such one-man rule that the P.A.T.A. wages war. Our Association is the sworn foe of the pioneer cutter, and Mr. Beecham is mistaken if he thinks he can settle the question of the profits we make—or, rather, do not make—on his goods by quoting the opinions of such traders, or by announcing that he has taken counsel with our enemies and arranged matters to their liking. Mr. Beecham advertises that his pills are sold by all chemists, and invites the co-operation of the trade in assisting him to create a demand for these goods. We are asked to apply for advertising matter and allowed to distribute it for nothing, yet, when he makes any arrangements for profits, he acts according to the wishes of the few whose avowed object is to wipe us out.

For "the consolation of the smaller buyers in that district," Mr. Beecham quotes the fact that the Timothy White Company and the International Tea Company have agreed to take his 77-per-cent. profit. I reply that both the firms mentioned have signed the P.A.T.A. agreement many months back, and that no two firms work more harmoniously with us.

Mr. Beecham suggests that two or three small buyers can join in a 5t parcel—in other words, that in order to secure

the 77-per-cent. profit we are to consult our business competitors as to how many Beecham's pills they can buy, to arrange for one of us to buy, to collect the necessary cash, and then distribute Mr. Beecham's pills. Is the man who takes this trouble to be asked to do so out of love for his competitors, for Mr. Beecham, for his $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, or is he to be paid for his trouble out of the other fellows' share of the $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.? Can Mr. Beecham give us any good reason why we should be called upon to take all this trouble to secure such a profit on his article, and not also be expected to do likewise with the hundreds of other proprietaries we stock?

I hope Mr. Beecham will make his position with the trade quite clear before the correspondence is closed. Does he want to know the wishes of the trade as to what they consider "living profits," and how they think those profits would be best secured? When he knows those wishes will he act upon them? Two simple questions, these, and your readers would like a straight answer to them, now he says he is prepared to see the matter through. If he cares to know what his distributors want, he need not consult the Midland town price-ruler, "the good old-fashioned firm of Dundee chemists," or the P.A.T.A. executive. Let him take a vote of the whole trade on three similar questions to those asked by the Sanitas Company.

Mr. Beecham's reference to our buying in the cheapest market, and accepting the lowest tender for the painting of our houses, without considering "living profits," is hardly to the point. We have no quarrel with the public for buying in the cheapest market, but we are taking a leaf out of the painters' book by securing a living profit, which is our wage for serving both the proprietor and the public. The Amalgamated Society of Painters, Glaziers, &c., looks after the painter, and it appears as if it will only be by combination that we, as traders, can ensure that we are not regarded as so many slot-machines for the distribution for nothing of other people's goods.

Your faithfully,

Stonecutter Street, E.C., W. S. GLYN-JONES. November 2.

Beecham's Prices.

SIR,-Mr. Beecham need not bother about publishing the correspondence relative to his prices. All those chemists who take any interest in business matters (I regret they are so few) have already read that correspondence, and, if I am any judge of signs, the result has only been that Mr. Beecham has voluntarily thrown himself into the balance, to be found wanting. According to his statement there has been one good result. The Timothy White Company agrees to sell his pills at the prices charged by the International Tea Company. From Mr. Beecham's point of view this is something to be thankful for, but he surely does not expect chemists to get enthusiastic about this holy alliance? Has it come to this, that 25 per cent. of the men who present themselves for an examination the academic nature of which nobody now disputes struggle through only to be told at the other side that the Timothy White Company has arranged to supply medicines to the country at the same price as the International Tea Company? Mr. Beecham must not think that chemists do not feel these things keenly. Because a few men like our Fraserburgh friend write letters which read like nonsense-at all events to me-he must not suppose that he has got the feeling of the mass of chemists throughout the country. We as business men know that no section of a drug-business can be carried on at a profit of 10 per cent. without absolute loss. Even the largest stores find that working-expenses don't fall below $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. We also know that the overturn in drugs is so small that a profit of 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. is necessary upon overturn before business can be honestly carried on. Stores cannot carry on business upon any lower percentage all round than chemists. The net result of this is that when a man asks us to handle his goods at 10 per cent. or less profit, he practically asks us to charge 40 per cent. or more upon some other class of goods which only ought to yield 25 per cent., in order to balance up. This may be the way in which those outside the ranks of pharmacy do business, Mr. Beecham, but the dayler of the same but we don't recognise in you an object for charity. A gentleman in Glasgow told me yesterday that he doesn't put money drawn for patents into his till; he simply classes them as postage-stamps. I consider that a wise thing to do.

Goods which yield no profit ought not to be classed as overturn, but why should we sell them at all? I am convinced that the drug-business would be much better if we all refused to stock the usual patents, and formed an association for making our own proprietary articles. I think this idea is making some headway; it is being called attention to from time to time. We want simply a company formed, in which chemists only shall be shareholders, and shareholders only shall be customers. This company shall put up all sorts of articles to be sold only at face-value, and to yield a profit of 30 per cent. or thereabout. All profits over working-expenses shall go to advertising. All shareholders shall cease to stock various patents which shall be named from time to time. Excuse me, Sir, entering into these details once more, but I wish the idea kept before chemists. Several men have asked me why I don't move myself. My answer is that no individual must move in this matter. must be taken up by a number of chemists, and carried on for the common good, and not for individual aggrandisement. So far as I am concerned I wish for no other relation towards it than that of an ordinary shareholder, and this must be the attitude of all. The shareholders would simply appoint a board of directors, and the directors would see about suitable premises and competent managers. private firm need talk about starting this. It won't have a chance unless it is started in the usual co-operative manner. JAMES REID. Dumfries, October 29.

SIR.—In the discussion on Mr. Beecham's proposal, your correspondents have, I think, overlooked an important feature which must act to the disadvantage of the scheme in question, and in some cases make its adoption wholly undesirable. In these days, when travelling-facilities are so great, a large class of people buy at those towns where they believe goods are cheapest, and it will sometimes occur that chemists of one town, who might favour Mr. Beecham's scheme, will be unable to carry it out because in a neighbouring town "bottom-cut" prices are in force. Where you have a town near you, which your own townspeople frequent, I am convinced it is the best policy to sell proprietary articles at prices as low as they are quoted there. If there is any weight in my contention, it must go to prove the advantage of such schemes as that of the P.A.T.A., where one uniform price is everywhere in force; and, if Mr. Beecham would give to retailers an assured profit of 1d. or $1\frac{1}{2}d$. a box on his pills, a far larger portion of the trade would be satisfied than they can be with the present arrangement, or with the scheme now being considered, where the opposition of one man in a town will frustrate all Mr. Beecham's good intentions.

Yours truly, W. (260/19.) November 1.

SIR,—We note that, in our letter of October 26, an error was made by the one who copied the letter. Prices should read $7\frac{1}{2}d$., 10d., and 2s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$. The prices $6\frac{1}{2}d$., $9\frac{1}{2}d$, and 2s. $1\frac{1}{2}d$ were those ruling before Mr. Beecham raised the prices and made it 5l. lots.

Yours,

Southampton, November 3.

WRIDE & Co.

Southampton, November 3.

The Manufacturer and the Chemist.

SIR,—I enclose for your perusal a pamphlet advertising Scott's Emulsion, which was recently circulated in this town, I should like to ask why Messrs. Scott & Bowne have gone out of their way to deliberately insult in it the whole body of the trade, and to try to hold them up to the pullic as men who are incapable of performing one of the most ordinary manipulations required in the business. I refer to the dispensing of an emulsion. I do not consider it very good form of them to turn round and make such statements about the very men through whom the majority of their preparations find their way into the hands of the public. have to sell their preparations at practically cost-price is bad enough, but to be publicly insulted by the makers in their advertisements is carrying the matter a little too far.

Yours faithfully, L. L. STROUD. Tewkesbury, November 2.

[The pamphlet sent is entitled "Personal Experiences," and contains an account of an argument with a chemist and his assistant, who, it is represented, wished to persuad; the

writer to take their own emulsion, which was declared to be "much superior to Seott's."-ED.]

Medical Aggressiveness.

SIR,—Your leader of to-day wherein you inform the trade that the medical profession are giving signs of preparing for a vigorous campaign against unqualified medical and surgical practice reminds me of a similar activity of theirs twenty years ago on identically the same question.

Their so-called "defensive" alliances, however, practically collapsed in the summer of 1880—after sundry misjudged and aggressive actions, more or less successful, in different parts of the country-consequent, in a great measure, upon Dr. Richardson, the President, announcing to the Congress of Medical Defence Unionists assembled in London that "he was of opinion that a certain section of the public evidently sought for the ready and cheap help of the chemist, as an easily approached neighbour, in small troubles, and he would suggest for the consideration of the profession that a modified medical examination might be arranged, in addition to that of the Pharmaceutical Society, which would render him" (the chemist) "more competent to treat minor ailments."

This practicable and common-sense suggestion had the effect of a bomb-shell thrown into their midst, and the litigant medicos separated disgusted and disheartened at the

thought.

A collapse, I think, will again be the fate of our ambitious friends should they not restrict their aims to the advice and recommendations given by the Government Commission to them on the subject in 1882, which your article mentions, and "leave well alone," as their predecessors have more or less done since that date.

Yours faithfully, GEORGE SHEPPERLEY.

37A Bentinck Road, Nottingham, October 30.

Should any chemist be attacked and will communicate with me, I shall be pleased to give him the benefit of what experience I have had on the subject.

Fire-insurance Companies in Ireland and Chemists.

SIR,—The insurance companies in this country seem to be trying to squeeze the chemists by their recent notice regarding the storing of turpentine. The rates which for years have stood at 3s. or 5s. per cent. are to go up to 10s. or 11s. per cent. if a man happens to have a few gallons of turpentine in his store. Is it fair that for the small quantity held by a chemist he should be made to pay as much as the man who keeps 80 gallons? There is no deduction at all or saving clause. I presume fires were occurring in oil stores, and the insurance managers looking over the lists thought of "turps," never dreaming of the chemist who only sells it by the ounce, or perhaps half pint at the utmost.

Cork, October 22.

Yours faithfully, RICHARD BLAIR.

A New Plant-press.

SIR,-Every botanist knows what slow, hot, and weary work it is to have anything to do with most plant-presses. These consist as a rule of two boards, with holes in the top board for the two screws to pass through. The screws are generally far too long, and the worm is very fine, and there-



fore slow. The press which I have designed is on somewhat

similar lines, but with this difference:

The top board is slotted at the ends. The screws are short, with a quick worm, so that about two turns of the handle puts on pressure.

The screws are hinged to the bottom board, and so fall down and allow the top board to be removed with the down and allow the sort utmost despatch and facility.

Yours faithfully,

Leeds, October 23.

FRED. REYNOLDS.

Transactions in Otto of Rose.

SIR,-May we make the following contribution to the interesting notes on otto-of-rose sophistication that have

from time to time appeared in your journal?

NOVEMBER 6, 1897

After two months of diplomatic play between the parties interested in the business in Bulgaria, the price of otto of rose for the season was fixed, and at present the export dealers in Bulgaria and Turkey have in hand about 1,800 kilos. (4,050 lbs.) of otto of rose, which they have bought at from 920f. to 1,050f. per kilo from the growers. Now it has become known here that, in all European capitals, otto of rose is being offered by some of these buyers at prices much lower than they have actually paid for the stuff in Bulgaria. This has had a very bad effect upon the market, and the trade, in consequence, has lately been almost at a standstill. We admit that it is very difficult for non-experts to discover, by smell alone, the presence of from 5 up to 8 per cent. of geranium oil in otto of rose; but the otto that is now being offered in European markets at from 650f. to 950f. per kilo. must at once be recognisable, by its aroma and freezing-point, as adulterated. It is, in fact, falsified to the extent of from 20 to 50 per cent. The critical situation of our otto-of-rose business is causing alarm in the press, among the public, and in the Legislature of this country, and it is generally recognised that strong measures will have to be taken to check a practice which is ruining the industry. The following reports that have appeared in the press here with regard to otto-of-rose purchases this season by large firms show the prices that were paid in Bulgaria:-

"We understand that yesterday the firms of A. and B. purchased all the otto of 16° freezing-point of the village of Maglich at 1,020f, per kilo. . . . Much to our astonishment, otto of rose, described as pure, of this year's growth is being offered freely in European markets at from 700f. to 850f.

per kilo., free and duty paid buyer's warehouse.
"On September 26 the firms of A., B., and C. purchased the otto of rose of the village of Rahmanlie at 1,000f, per kilo. for 15° C., and 1,055f. for 16° C. The quotations on the European markets remain much below those of Bulgaria. Thus, so-called pure otto of rose is being offered in Germany

by Bulgarian houses at 680f. to 700f. per kilo.

"Lately, the firms of D., B., E., and C. have bought, through their agents, all the otto of the villages of Bania, Touria, Golemo-Selo and Rahmanlie, which was in the hands of producers to whom they had advanced money, at the price of 1000f, per kilo. From the German market it is reported that several buyers who had purchased otto at from 630m. to 750m, per kilo. from Bulgarian houses on the understanding that it was pure have found out that the parcels were grossly adulterated with rectified Indian geranium, and have refused to accept the goods."

These few quotations, which could be largely extended, will suffice to show what practices are going on in this business. It is well known that this year's rose crop has not been large, and that, owing to the great increase in consumption in 1896, the reserve stock has fallen very low. It is therefore impossible to expect to buy pure otto unless the buyer is willing to pay a reasonable price. We will conclude with one more significant fact, and that is that last year it was generally agreed that the Bulgarian rose crop amounted to 3,500 kilos., of which about 500 still remain in stock at the present time; but, according to our official statistics. the export of otto of rose from Bulgaria from June 1, 1896, to June 1, 1897, was not less than 4,000 kilos. It is safe to assume that the difference between the export and the actual production consists of geranium oil, which confiding buyers abroad have paid for as pure otto of rose.

Yours faithfully,

Z. & Co. (256/39.) Kezanlik, Bulgaria, October 22.

"Mont Blanc" Lavender.

SIR,—With reference to the paragraph concerning "Mont Blanc" lavender (C. & D., October 23, page 677), I beg to state that the name "Mont Blanc" was originated some fifty years ago by the then head of a large firm of essentialoil distillers at Grasse, and at the time applied only to the oil of lavender distilled near Mont Blanc, a village in the department of the "Basses Alpes"—not the well-known mountain. Since then the denomination has been extended

to certain oils distilled on the highest mountains of the chain of the "Alpes Maritimes.

Your obedient servant, October 29.

W. NAUMANN.

The Manchester and Liverpool Price-lists.

SIR,—In your comments in last week's issue on the Manchester retail price-list you say it is to a very large extent a copy of the Liverpool list. I took no part in the preparation of the Manchester list, but in justice to the committee, whose work extended over some forty meetings, and after carefully comparing both lists, I desire to state that until the fifty-ninth page is reached in no instance is your criticism in accordance with the facts. That page (59) has, with very slight alteration, been adopted from the Liverpool list, but with this exception the arrangement of the two lists is entirely different.

You appear to be unaware that the present issue is a revision of former Manchester lists. I have not the particulars at hand of the dates of former issues, but I know that the third was published in 1880. I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

GEO. S. WOOLLEY,

President of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

[It is only fair to ourselves to say that the two books are of exactly the same size, are bound with the same material, contain exactly the same number of pages, though the Liverpool list is printed on one more—sixty pages to the Manchester fifty-nine. The Liverpool list contains a scheme for the arrangement of goods which is not in the Manchester list. Both then give a dispensirg price-list. These differ in details, but both adopt the private mark "Mel Boracis." Then comes the retail price-list. At the head of the Liverpool list we find explanations almost identical, beginning with the sentence, "These prices are for retail quantities only, and are not intended to apply to articles sold for trade [and photographic] purposes." The words in brackets appear in the Liverpool list only. In both lists poisons in the first part of the schedule are marked in the margin "Poison," and those in the second part "Register." In the Liverpool list tincture of cinchona is found under cinchona; in the Manchester list it is found under tinctures. The Manchester list gives columns per 1 oz., 4 oz., and 16 oz.; the Liverpool list quotes a second price when thought necessary. After the price-list the Liverpool list gives the poisons regulations; the Man-chester list does not. Then follow in both lists prices for natural mineral waters and for surgical dressings. quite willing to believe that the Liverpool chemists took many of their ideas from the old Manchester list, but certainly there is a great similarity between the two lists, and we ask permission to substitute that statement for the one to which Mr. Woolley takes exception.—Ed. C. & D.]

DISPENSING NOTES.

This section is intended for the elucidation of dispensing difficulties. Subscribers and their employes may contribute to it, criticising any of the following notes or contributing notes on prescriptions which they have found to be of unusual interest.

Spt. Æther. Nit. and Sodii Salicyl.

SIR,—The following mixture was dispensed colourless, but returned next day of a deep red colour :-

> Spt. æther. nit. mv. Sodii salicyl.... ••• gr. v. 3ss. Syrupi... ... Aq. menth. pip. ad ...

I should like an explanation of the reaction which takes place, and to know if it can be avoided, also if the resulting compound is poisonous, and if a dispenser is justified in dispensing such a prescription. H. P. J. (254/26.)

[Sweet nitre is incompatible with sodii salicyl., the nitrous ether forming, with the salicylate, nitro and diazo-oxybenzoate of soda. The action cannot be avoided, and although the resulting compound is not considered poisonous, the prescriber should be communicated with.]

A Suppository Wrinkle.

SIR,- This is written with ink made from a formula in your issue of May 1, 1897; it seems to work very well. I write you now to say that the suppository business may be made a pleasure by the addition of a little lanoline to the powdered ol. theobromæ, which is easily done by a few drops of sp. æth. nit.; then add the medicament, and then q.s. of lanoline. The result is as nice a mass as one would like to see; it can be rolled out, and is not at all short; for powder use p. cret. cal. I have not seen this published, but the thing is so easy that every compounder ought to know it.

Digby, Nova Scotia. J. CHALONER.

Examination Prescriptions.

244/68. Inquirer sends the following two prescriptions, given at the last Minor examination in London. Some of our student readers will perhaps let us know how these can best be dispensed:-

Ol. terebinth	 •••	***	•••	Ziij.
Ol. cajuputi .	 •••	•••		3ij.
Ovi vitelli .	 	•••	•••	j.
Acid. acetici .	 •••	•••	•••	ξj.
Aq. ad	 	•••	•••	ξvj.
Ft. emulsio.				
Glyc. boracis .	 		•••	3iv.
Liq. plumbi	 	•••		živ.
Ung. zinci ad	•••	•••	•••	žij.
Ft. ung.				

253/5. W. H. L.—The mixture ferments; it requires more spirit or some chloroform to preserve it.

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

We reply to our subscribers and their employes only; queries must, therefore, be authenticated by the name and address of the subscriber. When more than one query is sent write each on a separate piece Notice to of paper. When a sample accompanies a query full particulars regarding the origin and use of the sample must be given, and the name of the querist should be placed on the sample. Queries are not replied to by post.

G. P.—Tar-distillation.—Lunge's work, pub-244/31. lished by Gurney & Jackson, is the best. It costs about 30s.

W. B.—Tin-lacquering.—On the large scale they take care to use a comparatively thin lacquer, which is applied with a brush, and the articles are at once placed in a warm room to dry. We have no new formulæ for these to publish; but your difficulty is not, we think, the lack of a good formula, but inexperience in application. Tin-lacquering is, like every other business, easily done by those trained to do it, and difficult to amateurs. We do not reply by post.

243/50. Junior. — Analytical Chemistry. — If you, a druggist's assistant with five years' experience, wish to qualify yourself as a professional chemist, you should do as advised under "Science" in our Educational number. We should say that at present you would be valueless to an analyst, and it is futile to talk about an engagement for which you cannot be ready this side of the twentieth century. Meanwhile, study chemistry and physics in the nearest science classes, and judge at the end of a year whether your ability is equal to your desire. Be sure to read what is said in September 5 issue.

H. J. O.—Pharmaceutically your formula is all right, but it is ridiculous to ask us whether it will serve the purpose or not, when you do not tell us whether it is to be used as a lotion, injection, or mixture. We presume the last; if so, and if given in tablespoonful-doses thrice daily, it will be a good bitter and diuretic.

32/12. L. E.—Balsam of Sulphur is still used in some parts of the country for colds, a little bit of it being taken twice or three times a day. The sale of it is small, and we should think that the whole country does not consume more than a cask or two every year. It is also a constituent of Dutch drops. It is probably used for other purposes; if so, an advertisement in our Exchange Column may find you a purchaser for your salvage stock.

245/46. Radix.-White Brass-paste.-You will find formulæ based upon analyses in back numbers; but really you should have little difficulty in making a paste. Dimatos, finely-sifted silica, and phosphate of calcium are the most common powders used, and you have simply to take one of these and form it into a paste with whitepetroleum jelly, with or without the addition of spirit of turpentine and a perfume.

INFORMATION WANTED.

The Editor will be obliged for replies to the following from any who can furnish the information.

260/17. Recipe for pulv. sodii sulph. co. (Simpson).

Coming Events.

We insert notices of association and society meetings in this section free if they are sent to us, on postcards, by the Wednesday of the week before the meetings are to be held.

Friday, November 5.

Aberdeen Junior Chemists' Association, 21 Bridge Street, at 9.30 P.M. Magazine Evening.

Tuesday, November 9.

Royal Photographic Society, 5a Pall Mall East, at 8 p.m. "The Spectroscope," by E. W. Maunder, F.R.A.S.

Irish Pharmacists' Assistants' Association, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 8.30 p.m. Lecture on "The Scottish Alps," by Mr. W. Lamond Howie, F.C.S.

Wednesday, November 10.

Brighton Junior Pharmaceutical Association. Eighth annual dinner at the Café Royal, East Street, at 8 P.M. Tickets, 5s. each, are to be obtained from any member of the committee, or of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. H. Andrews, 74 Queen's Park Road, Brighton.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. J. L. Slack will deliver a lecture, "Stray Thoughts, suggested by the Life and Times of John Dalton."

Thursday, November 11.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, W., at 8.30 P.M. Mr. Thos. Thompson on "A Mathematical Training and its Bearing on a Pharmaceutical Career.

Liverpool Chemists' Association, Royal Institution, at 7 P.M., Mr. Charles Sharp on "The ¡Land of Green Ginger: a Discourse in Praise of Gardens," with lime-light illustrations.

The Evening Scientific Meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland will be inaugurated on Monday night next, November 8 at 8 r.m., at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, when officers and a special committee will be elected to assist in the management of these meetings. It is expected that there will be a full attendance, as, although primarily, of course, intended for the Society's subscribers and students, it is intimated that the exclusion of others interested is not contemplated. others interested is not contemplated.

The Annual Dinner in connection with the Executive of the North British Branch will take place on Thursday, November 25, at 6.30, in the Royal Hotel, Princes Street, Edinburgh. The tickets are 6s., exclusive of wines, and may be had from the Assistant-Secretary, Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, 36 York Place

A Meeting of Public Dispensers will be held at Trinity Church Schools, 252n Gray's Inn Road, Holborn, E.C., at 7.30 on Tuesday next, November 9, to form an association to protect and further the interests of dispensers, and generally to improve their social position. All dispensers are urgently invited to attend.—R. Welford, Hon. Secretary pro tem.

The annual dinner of the Westminster College of Chemistry and Pharmacy has been fixed for Friday, December 3, in the Venetian Chamber, Holborn Restaurant, when the silver medal for the past session will be presented by T. Skewes-Cox, Esc.,



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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1897.

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Summary of the Month.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for the month of October contained five issues. We name below a few of the more important subjects treated in them :-

Books.-Reviews and literary notes on a number of new books interesting to pharmacists.

Companies.—Particulars of formation of new drug, &c., companies, with meetings and dividends of the following:—Hall's Coca Wine, Parke's Drng Stores, Pears' Soap, Schweppes, &c.

Dispensing Notes .- The subjects discussed in the Correspondence columns are interesting and instructive.

Examinations.—Three Minor candidates relate their experience before the Edinburgh and London Boards. A description of the Chicago pharmaceutical examination is also given.

Formulæ are given for the following specialities:-

Bath-powder Carbolic tooth-powder Chemical weather-glass Coffee essence Composition essence Cold cream Cough-mixtnres (non-poisonous) Eczema-ointment Floor-polish

Foot-rot ointment

Glycerine snow

Hair-tonic Marking-ink Modelling-wax Peppermint lozenges Petroleum emplsion Photograph-mountant Rheumatic-liniment Saline (cheap) Show crystals Starch-improver Toilet-creams Worm and teething powders

Grocery Exhibition .-- Report on the exhibits of interest to the drug-trade.

New Government Laboratories.-Illustrated and descriptive article, with portraits of the principals.

Obituary Notices of Mr. G. G. Henderson (Belfast), Mr. J. Hickisson, Mr. P. L. Simmonds, and others

P.A.T.A. Interesting correspondence from Mr. Beecham, Day's Southern Drug Company, and Mr. Glyn-Jones.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.-Report of meeting and Presidential address at the School of Pharmacy, with portraits of the Hanbury, Flückiger, and Pereira medallists.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.—Report of the annual meeting and address by Mr. W. F. Wells, jun. Portrait of Mr. R. J. Downes, the newly-elected President.

Photographic Exhibitions .- Report on the Royal Photographic and Kodak exhibitions.

Star-anise Oil.—Contribution by Mr. J. C. Umney on its adulteration.

The Annibersary.

SELDOM has any annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland been looked forward to with such lively expectation as that of October 4. Company-pharmacy was known to be regarded very seriously by a section of the Society who, led by Dr. J. C. McWalter, first made an attack upon Mr. T. W. Robinson's candidature for the Council, with immediate success, the state of the poll being :-

	Votes		Votes
Professor Tichborne	133	Mr. Porter	118
Mr. Downes	124	Dr. Walsh	116
Mr. Turkington	121	*Mr. T. O'Sullivan	110
Mr Ryan	119	*Mr. Robinson	37

After the declaration of the poll Mr. Wm. F. Wells, jun., President of the Society, delivered an able address, in which he sketched the work accomplished during the year, mentioning, in the course of his remarks on examinations, that the Registered Druggist's examination practically exists for the North of Ireland, two-thirds of the candidates examined in the course of the year being Belfast men. Mr. Wells also remarked upon the danger to pharmacy through the altered conditions under which the apothecary's licence is granted, commented generally upon the drug-contract system in Ireland, and upon the legal work of the Society during the year. After this address and the Treasurer's statement (a highly satisfactory one) were disposed of, the way was clear for Dr. McWalter's motion-viz.,

That the practice of pharmacy by limited-liability companies constitutes a danger to the public, and is opposed to the best interests of the Pharmaceutical Society here.

The fur then began to fly. We have not space to repeat the report of the debate which was published in The Chemist

AND DRUGGIST of October 9, but will simply show how the talking and the voting went:—

Against the Companies
Dr. McWalter
Mr. J. H. Holmes
Mr. W. R. Wilson
Mr. Kelly
Mr. Ryan
Mr. W. F. Wells,
jun.

For the Companies | Doubtful about Companies, but against Cutting Mr. Bernard
Mr. Bobinson
Mr. Bernard
Mr. Johnston
Mr. Downes

The argument of the opponents to Dr. McWalter's motion was that limited companies are no danger if they do not cut; but that idea expressed as an amendment was negatived by 10 votes to 7, and the original motion carried by 12 votes to 7. Thereafter Mr. Gibson, of Belfast, tried to con-



Mr. R. J. Downes, PRESIDENT.

vince a wearied-out meeting that registered druggists are not satisfied with their representation on the Council, but the meeting by 7 to 2 resolved that

Registered druggists are satisfied that their interests are adequately looked after by the Council as at present constituted, as otherwise they would possess themselves of the right of voting at elections.

At the meeting of the reconstituted Council on October 6, the peremptory refusal of Mr. W. F. Wells, jun., to serve a third year as president did not surprise those who have known what he has had to put up with during the past twelve months. So Mr. R. J. Downes, one of the oldest and loyalest members of the Society, was appointed his successor. Mr. G. D. Biggs was elected Vice-President, and Mr. George Grindley Treasurer (in succession to Mr. E. M. Hodgson). The Fresident has commenced his reign under auspicious

circumstances. From a paragraph printed below it will be seen that a series of evening meetings has been arranged for the coming winter, and the first of these was held on Monday, October 25, when Sir Charles Cameron delivered an address. Then the new President, speaking of what the Society had done for pharmaceutical education in Ireland, concluded his remarks by saying:-" The only guarantee we can have, or can give the public, is our personal xamination of everything which passes through our hands. Are you fit to undertake it? The authors of the Act of 1875 had the wisdom to reimpose a qualification by examination for compounding. This, I claim, is the contract of the nation; we did not make it. It was the Parliamentary Act before we existed as a society. Will they play the knave, and tell us they knew they had something up their sleeve that would spoil the bargain for us? With our loudest voice we call on the nation and Parliament to fulfil its part of the contract; we have done and are doing ours, yet they stand by and see these rights filched from us under the besmirched cloak of the 'Companies Acts.' We are authorised and required to prosecute for the illegal compounding of prescriptions and for the illegal sale of poisons; and yet when we do so we are regarded as trade unionists, as interlopers in the district where we prosecute, and after we have won our case with difficulty, and with odium, the convicted writes 'Limited' after his name with as much ease as he would 'Esquire,' and metaphorically extends his fingers in front of his face in the direction of ours. If this continues the Act will die, and again the country will suffer from want of qualified compounders."

Pharmaceutical Society of Freland.

OCTOBER EXAMINATIONS.

PRELIMINARY.

THIRTY-SIX candidates were examined, of whom 18 failed, and the following 18 passed:—

Adderley, T. H. L., Belfast Beste, T. J., Dublin Byrne, A. J., Arklow Cox, C., Kilmallock Donaghy, J. A., Ballymena Doyle, J. T., Clontarf, co. Dublin Hartrey, J., Dublin McCormack, J., Wexford Maher, J., Dublin Maxwell, F., Dalkey Nolan, M. J., Tralee Nolan, P. M., Listowel O'Brien, J., Listowel Porter, A., Belfast Scott, J. E., Bandon Wade, W. J., Oldcastle Walshe, Agnes M., Drogheda Wilson, R. A., Lisnaskea

PHARMACEUTICAL LICENCE.

Fifteen candidates were examined, of whom 9 failed, and the following 6 passed:—

Ashe, J. S., Enniscorthy Duane, P. J., Dublin Gray, W., Belfast O'Farrell, J. C. P., Dublin

Thompson, W. J., Ballyshannon Wyatt, Ada S., Dublin

REGISTERED DRUGGIST.

Of 11 candidates examined, the following 7 satisfied the examiners, and passed:—

Craig, J., Belfast Loughlin, D. C., Lurgan McClean, J. J., Ballymena McKnight, J., Belfast McNeight, W. R. P., Dublin Orr, W. R. H., Belfast Ramsay, R., Ballymena

EVENING MEETINGS.

EVENING meetings of the Society, for the discussion of scientific subjects, will be held at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, during the winter. Interesting lectures have been arranged for November 29, December 13, January 19 and 31, February 14 and 28, March 14 and 28, April 11 and 25. The members of the Society dined together at the Gresham Hotel, Dublin, on October 5.

EVOLUTION OF IRISH PHARMACY.*

November 6, 1897

SIR CHARLES CAMERON'S address to the first evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society at Lower Mount Street, Dublin, last week was bright and interesting. It was specially intended to show how men connected with the drug-trade had helped in the progress of chemistry and medicine. Sir Charles remarked that pharmacy had been carried on in Ireland since the institution of the Apothecaries' Hall in 1791. Therefore, the pharmaceutical body could hardly be looked on as a body of non-professional men, nor could it be said that they had succeeded the Apothecaries' Hall, because that institution was still in existence. But they might fairly claim that, as far as their profession was concerned, they were doing exactly the same work—only he was sure that they were doing it in a much better manner-that the apothecaries did hundreds of years ago in Dublin. (Applause.) It was worthy of note that the earliest incorporation of any class of persons having anything to do with the healing art took place, not in London, but in Dublin. The earliest incorporation of surgeons and apothecaries took place about 450 years ago in Dublin, or about sixteen years before the incorporation of the Society of Barher Surgeons. The original charter of Henry IV. had vanished. Perhaps it was given up by the Barber Surgeons' Company on receiving a new charter from Queen Elizabeth. But the older charter was fully recited in that which was granted by Queen Elizabeth to the chirurgeons, barbers, and apothecaries of Dublin. This charter was well worth looking at. It was in Trinity College, Dublin, and was heautifully illuminated. The charter fell into abeyance in the time of James II., and another onc was issued which showed that at that time-and perhaps long before—the apothecaries were anxious to form one of the four great divisions into which, in the progress of time, it had become necessary to divide the ancient cure-guild of barber surgeons. Anyone who knew anything of the peculiar constitution of the cure-guilds of the Middle Ages was aware that one of their objects was political, and the right to vote for members of Parliament in the city of Dublin was only possessed in the last century by members of those guilds. In process of time the only way in which persons not con-nected with handicrafts could become freemen of the city was by becoming nominal members of those guilds. But before the time of James II. apothecaries had become so numerous in Dublin that they formed themselves into a kind of sub-company. There were four companies associated together as one political body under the title of Barber Surgeons. The most numerous of these appeared to be the surgeons; and then came the apothecaries. He had satisfied himself that the functions of apothecaries in those days were exactly the same as those which the members of the Pharmaceutical Society performed at the present day. They were thorough pharmacists. They did not practise medicine. Strict rules of the societies prevented the chirurgeons from practising barhery, the barbers from practising the apothecary's art, and the apothecaries from infringing on the surgeons. The apothecaries were what they were then, and had remained since, on the Continent-pharmaceutical chemists, and they never practised medicine. But about that time the apothecaries began to sprout and to practise surgery and medicine. A distinguished apothecary and great Irish patriot of his day, Dr. Lucas, whose statue adorns the Dublin City Hall, strongly animadverted on the conduct of the apothecaries of his time in infringing on the domain of the physicians. In England the apothecaries had always been to a certain extent medical practitioners; and during nearly the whole of the present century they had been so far ordinary physicians that they did not—at least during the last fifty years—make up prescriptions for other practitioners. In Ireland, on the contrary, the compounding of medicines was carried on exclusively by the apothecaries until the institution of the Pharmaceutical Society. Now the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland had recently become an undoubted corporation of medical practice. titioners, and perhaps after a while they would cease to make up prescriptions, except for themselves. Then they would be completely out of the way of the pharmacists.

Rews of the Month.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

Registered Druggists' Examinations.—The following passed last month:—J. Claig, D. C. Loughlin, J. J. McClean, J. McKnight, W. R. P. McNeight, W. R. H. Orr, and R. Ramsay. Four candidates were rejected.

Pharmaceutical Licence Examination.—The following passed at the October examination:—J. S. Ashe, J. C. P. O'Farrell, Ada S. Wyatt, W. Gray, P. J. Duane, and W. J. Thompson. Nine candidates were rejected.

The Belfast Meeting of the B.P.C.

At a meeting on October 9 an early date in August, 1898, was agreed on for the British Pharmaceutical Conference in Belfast, and the following executive committee was appointed:—Mr. Thomas Green (Messrs. Grattan & Co.), Mr. J. pointed:—Mr. Thomas Green (Messrs. Grattan & Co.), Mr. J. Montgomery, Mr. J. Tate, Dr. Tweedie, Dr. Fielden, Mr. D. W. Elliott, Mr. James Guiler, Mr. T. N. Moffatt, Mr. P. J. Lyons, Mr. G. Waugh, Sir J. Haslett, M.P., Mr. T. McMullan, jun., Mr. J. Watson, Mr. S. Clotworthy, Mr. R. Campbell, Mr. S. Acheson, Mr. W. J. Gihson, Mr. J. Richardson, Mr. W. Jameson, Mr. J. H. Shaw, with the Hon. Local Secretaries (Messrs. J. Rankin and R. W. McKnight), Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. J. C. C. Payne, J.P., as Chairman. The guarantee fund is still even for subscriptions fund is still open for subscriptions.

The Drug-contract Crusade.

The Lurgan Times of October 2 reprints our article of February 27 on "Irish Poor-law Union Drug-contracts." We are glad to see the truth still spreading, even though the Lurgan editor does not think it necessary to give us credit for the review.

We reprinted on October 23 a letter by a "Wholesale Chemist" to the *Medical Press*, which added more exposures to the already long list of those which have been recently published revealing some of the trickery prevalent in connection with the Poor-law Union drug-contracts. Those interested in the details should refer to the issue referred to as to remedies for the well-known evils.

"W. C." suggests three. No. 1 was touched upon when the Dublin Union split their contract. That would soon drive the dishonest contractor out of the market. No. 2 is a simple plan. Let a well-known list be taken, any good wholesale firm will do, and let the tender he the discount off that list. No. 3 is the best, and that is the establishment in Dublin of a central store under a suitable man, where all preparations could be made, and all supplies sent from there.

The following Union contracts have been settled since our last issue:

Clonakilty: Messrs, Harding.

Dublin (Mill Street): Messrs. Leslie & Co., Dublin.

Enniskillen: Messrs. Adam, Son & Co., Enniskillen. Irvinestown: Messrs. P. A. Leslie & Co. and Skinner & Co., Dublin.

Kilrush: Messrs. Ryan, Tipperary.

Limerick: Messrs. kyan, Tipperary.

Limerick: Medicines, &c.—Leslie & Co., Dublin; Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin; Laird & Co., Limerick; J. P. Evans & Co., Limerick; Harrington & Co., Cork. Surgical appliances.—Smith & Sheppard, Dublin.

Lisburn: Messrs. Clarke & Co. (Limited), Belfast.

Newry: Messrs. J. Clarke & Co., Belfast, for medicines;

and S. Connor & Sons, Newry, for surgical appliances.
Roscommon: Mr. J. Phillips, Roscommon.
Stokestown: Mr. P. N. White. Sligo. Tralee: Mr. W. D. Regan, of Tralee.

Carrick: At the last meeting of the Guardians it was pointed out that ten drugs on the list were not on the authorised schedule of medicines. The dispensary officer said it rested with the Guardians to authorise or withhold them, but if anything happened in case of refusal he would hold the Board responsible. Mr. Rockett (a guardian) said they ought to place confidence in their medical officer and not raise quibbles. He asked would any of the special medicines deteriorate if kept in stock. Dr. Kenny (the medical officer) said none of the drugs would have the opportunity of-

^{*} For a full report of this lecture see C. & D., October 30, price 4d., post free.

going bad, as they were all wanted for immediate use. The Board authorised the expenditure.

Irish Limited Companies.

Adamson & Co. (Limited).—Capital 3,000l., in 1l. shares To acquire the business of Robert & Samuel Adamson' chemists, druggists, and drysalters, Ballina, co. Mayo. Registered office, Knox's Street, Ballina. Samuel Adamson, managing director.

Cash Chemists (Limited.)—Registered to carry on the business of chemists and druggists, dealers in surgical instruments and appliances. Capital 2,000l., in 200 shares of 10l. each. The first directors are:—Stanley Harrington, druggist, Cork; James Kiloh, pharmaceutical chemist, Cork; Richard Sunner, pharmaceutical chemist, Cork; Richard Blair, pharmaceutical chemist, Cork; and John Murphy, pharmaceutical chemist, Cork. Registered office, Carey's Lane, Cork.

Westmeath County Infirmary.

At the recent quarterly meeting of the Governors Mr. Nooney called attention to the price paid for medicines, and asked was there a contract for the supply. On being answered in the negative he said that local people, who helped to pay the rates, should get an opportunity of competing for medicines. It was not the modern way of doing business to give one person a monopoly. The local chemists could supply medicines as cheaply, if not cheaper, than the present firm. It transpired subsequently that linseed-meal could be had in Mullingar for 12s. 6d. per cwt., while the price of the Dublin house was 17s. per cwt. On the motion of Mr. Nooney it was resolved that the Registrar be requested when issuing the annual advertisements for supplies to include medicines and medical appliances in the list of articles to be tendered for.

Irish Pharmacists' Assistants' Association.

That was the new name which the Pharmaceutical Chemists' and Apothecaries' Assistants' Association of Ireland adopted at the opening meeting held on October 15. The Treasurer (Mr. J. T. Turner) reported that the Association had in hand, after paying all debts, a balance of over 11\(\frac{11}{2}\). The annual report stated that the attendance showed the Association to be in a thoroughly healthy condition. The following were elected office-bearers:—Mr. W. J. Hardy, L.P.S.I., President; Mr. Hunt, L.P.S.I., Vice-President; Mr. J. Tyrie Turner, Hon. Treasurer; and Messrs. W. Vincent Johnston, M.P.S.I., and Mr. W. J. Dunwoody, L.P.S.I., Hon. Secretary and Hon. Assistant Secretary respectively. The following were appointed a committee:—Messrs. McCarthy, O'Sullivan, Parker, Cowie, Taylor, Yoxall, Ashe, Cahill, Hogan, Meyrick, W. U. Smith, Savage, Watson, Nagle, Ardill, Glover, and Carroll. The name of the Association was then changed to "Irish Pharmacists' Assistants' Association," and when the "employment agency "came on for discussion Mr. Councillor Conyngham warmly supported it, and it was referred to the committee to carry out the details. On the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Hogan, it was resolved that the subscriptions of country members be lowered from 10s. to 7s. 6d. per annum.

The Rival Royal Baking-powders.

The Royal Baking-powder Company (the American firm) have re-opened their campaign in the High Court, Dublin, by applying for an injunction to restrain Messrs. Young, of Belfast, from selling baking-powder not the goods of the plaintiffs with the word "Royal" as part of the title. The action is directed against Messrs. Wright, Crossley & Co., of Liverpool, who, it was said, had sent large quantities of their baking-powder to Mr. Young, the defendant, who put it into tins and labelled it "Royal Baking-powder." When the plaintiff company heard of this the writ was issued, whereupon Mr. Young gave an undertaking not to use the word "Royal," but he would not admit the plaintiffs' right to the title. The plaintiffs, it may be remembered, were some time since fined for using a false trade-description—namely, that the word "Royal" was registered, implying that it was registered in England, whereas it was only registered in America. The action stands over.

Petitions of Arrangement.

[The following have been filed during the past month. The creditors of those marked * will be found in the C. d. D., October 30, post free 4d.]

Fenner, Henry William, Little Island, co. Cork, manufacturing chemist and farmer. Petition for arrangement and affidavit of assets and liabilities. Dated October 13; filed October 15. Liabilities, secured or partly secured, 1,400*l*.; unsecured, 3,248*l*. 8s. 1*d*. Assets, after deducting secured claims, 605*l*.

*Calvert, Joseph, trading as J. Calvert & Co., Lurgan, chemist. Petition for arrangement, and affidavit of assets and liabilities. Dated October 23; filed October 23. Liabilities, secured or partly secured, 2,0281. 15s. 3d.; unsecured, 3,4241. 2s. 4d. Assets, after deducting secured claims, 6841. 15s. 7d.

*Waugh, George Henry, 104 and 106 Grosvenor Street, Belfast, pharmaceutical chemist. Petition for arrangement, and affidavit of assets and liabilities. Dated October 18; filed October 20. Liabilities, secured or partly secured, 15*l.*; unsecured, 635*l.* Assets, after deducting secured claims, 375*l.*

Business Matters.

Mr. D. H. O'Sullivan, L.P.S.I., has opened a Medical Hall at New Street, Newmarket, co. Cork. Mr. O'Sullivan served his apprenticeship with Mr. Eggleston, M.P.S.I., Kanturk. He afterwards qualified in Dublin, and spent two years at O'Connor's Medical Hall, Cavan, leaving then to manage Quirke's Medical Hall, Tullamore.

Mr. George M. Ryan, M.C.P.S.I., Upper Camden Street, Dublin, has opened a suburban branch Medical Hall at Dundrum.

Messrs. James McCaul & Co., pharmacists, Londonderry, have just carried out extensive alterations at their Medical Hall in William Street.

The honorary degree of M.A. has been conferred upon Professor Whitla, L.A.H., of the Queen's College, Belfast, by the Royal University, Dublin.

Mr. T. O'Sullivan, M.P.S.I., Waterford, has opened a handsomely fitted-up Medical Hall on the Quay, built to his order by Mr. T. J. Farrell. The new concern is an ornament to the city.

Mr. James Guiler, M.P.S.I., Cooke Terrace, Ormean Road, Belfast, has been appointed temporary examiner to the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland *vice* Mr. T. W. Robinson, M.P.S.I., resigned.

Messrs. Ayrton & Saunders, of Liverpool, have had a good exhibition of druggists' sundries at Dublin and Limerick during the past month, and on November 3 it will be moved on to the Eglington and Winton Hotel, at Belfast.

Miss Ada Wyatt, who passed the pharmaceutical-licence examination last month, is the first one of her sex to become an L.P.S.I. She took third place at the examination out of seventeen candidates. She served her apprenticeship in one of the leading pharmacies in Dublin.

Dr. Ninian Falkiner, examiner to the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, has been appointed examiner in materia medica and pharmacy under the Conjoint Medical Examination scheme. Dr. Falkiner was once in Messrs. Hamilton, Long & Co.'s State Pharmacy, Dublin.

Mr. Beggs, Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, who some time ago started Saturday-night concerts in Dalkey for the benefit of the working men of the township, has achieved much success, the concerts being regarded by the local vintners as the most dangerous opposition yet offered to their trade.

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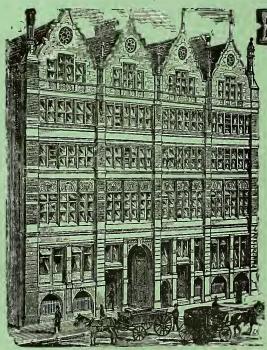
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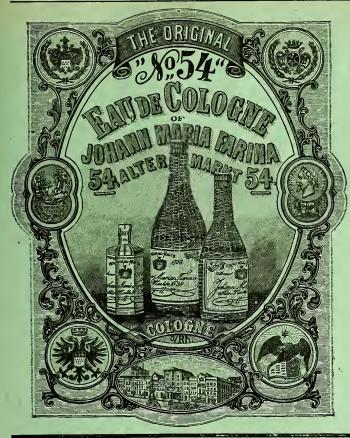
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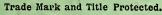
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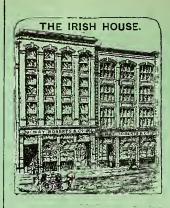
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